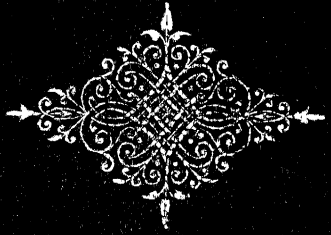
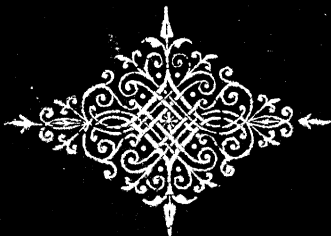
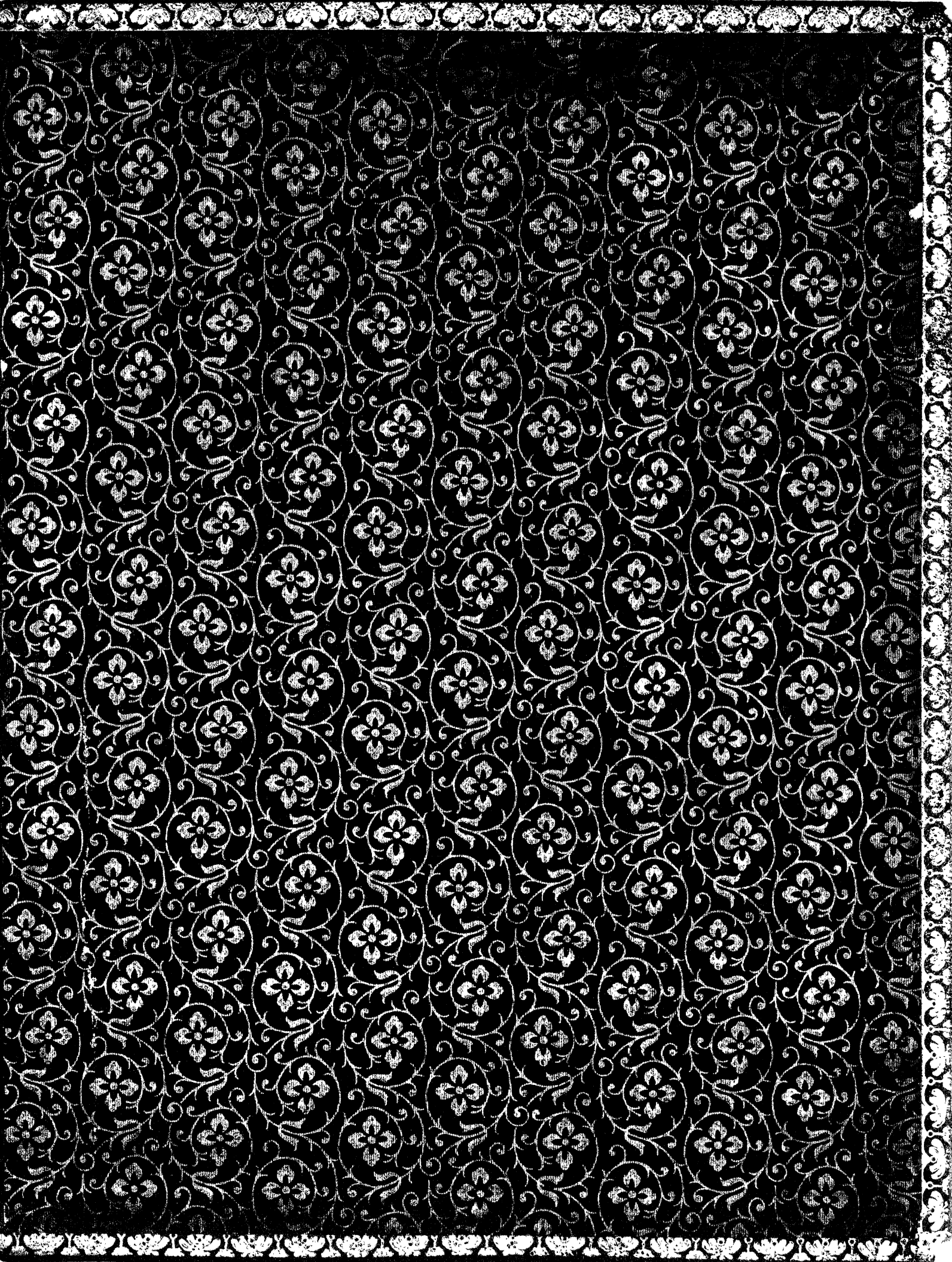


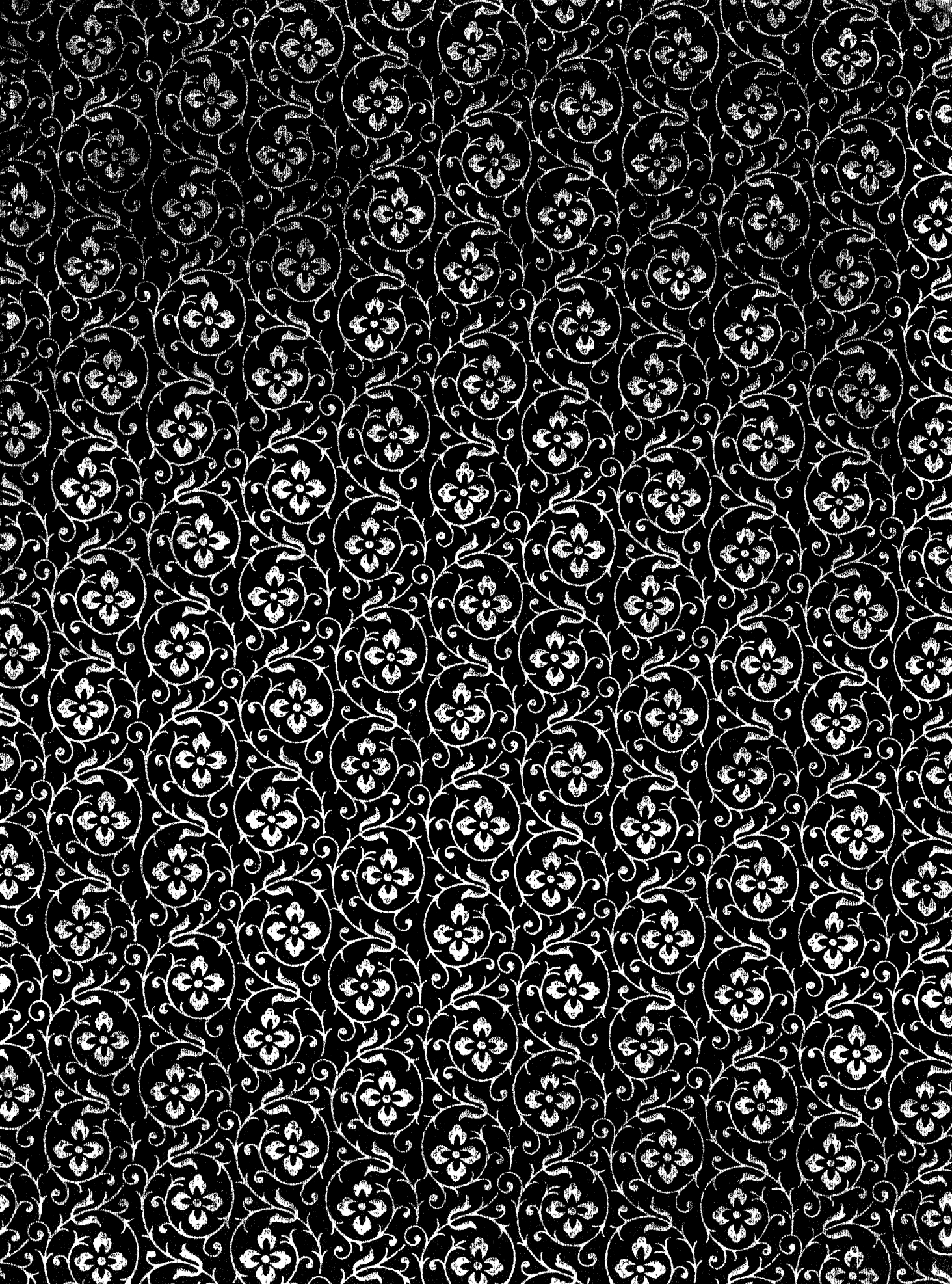
IONIA ^{AND} MONTCALM
COUNTIES



MICHIGAN.







Portrait



Biographical

Album



Ionia and Montcalm Counties, Mich.

CONTAINING

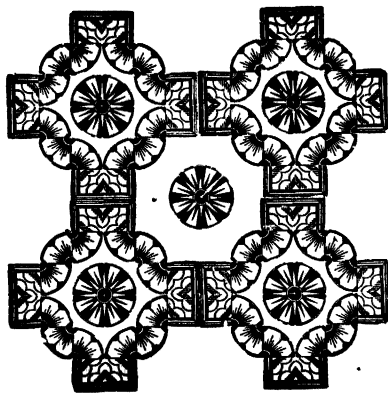
FULL PAGE PORTRAITS

AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS
OF THE COUNTY

TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE
PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.
AND GOVERNORS OF THE STATE



CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROS.,
1891.



PREFACE.



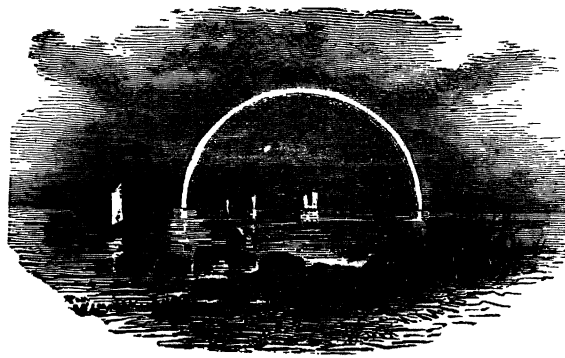
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written, and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to the biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men could never be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

CHICAGO, July, 1891.

CHAPMAN BROS.



PORTRAITS
AND
BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE
GOVERNORS OF MICHIGAN,

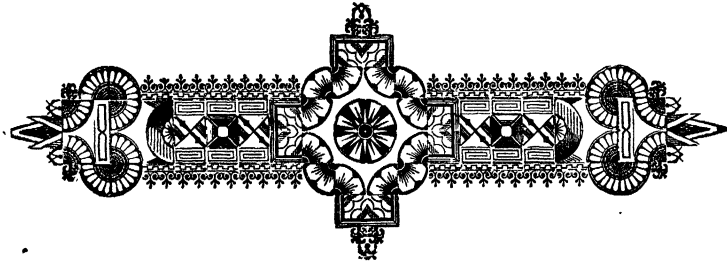
AND OF THE

PRESIDENTS

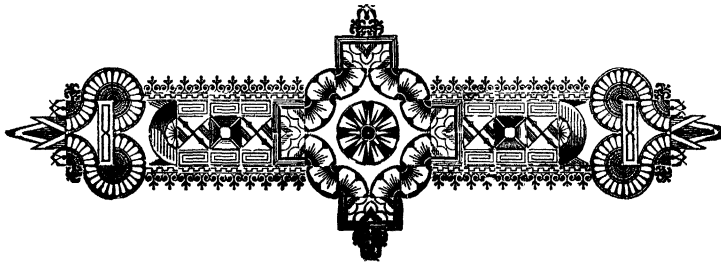
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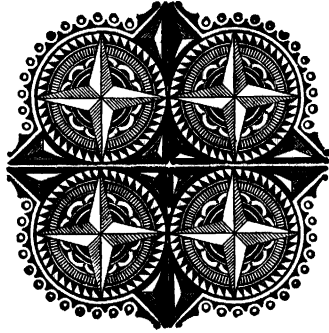
UNITED STATES.

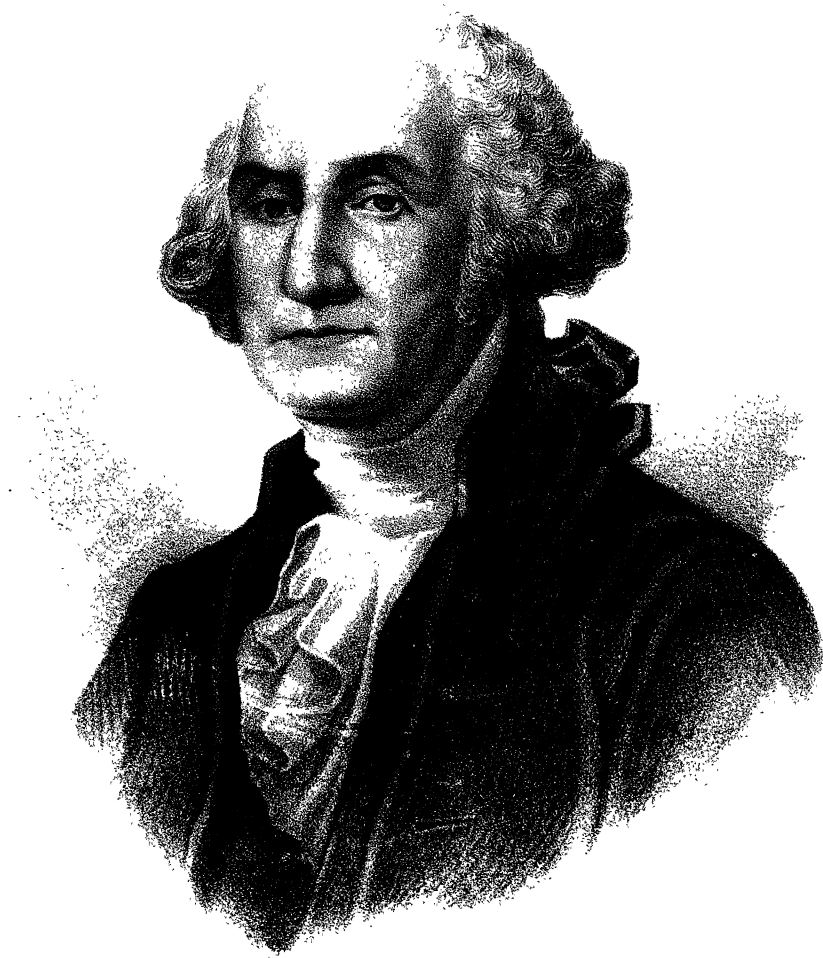




PRE S I D E N T S .



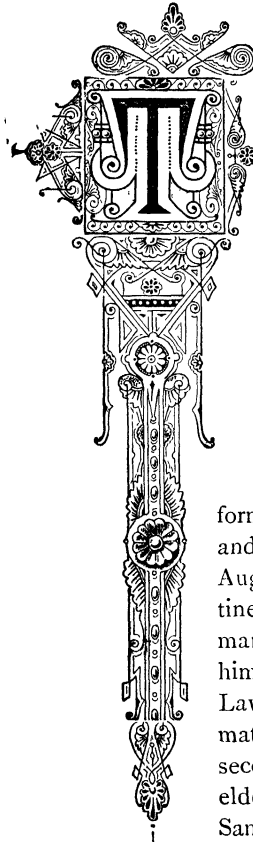




George Washington



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



HE Father of our Country was born in Westmorland Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington. The family to which he belonged has not been satisfactorily traced in England. His great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1657, and became a prosperous planter. He had two sons, Lawrence and John. The former married Mildred Warner and had three children, John, Augustine and Mildred. Augustine, the father of George, first married Jane Butler, who bore him four children, two of whom, Lawrence and Augustine, reached maturity. Of six children by his second marriage, George was the eldest, the others being Betty, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Mildred.

Augustine Washington, the father of George, died in 1743, leaving a large landed property. To his eldest son, Lawrence, he bequeathed an estate on the Patomac, afterwards known as Mount Vernon, and to George he left the parental residence. George received only such education as the neighborhood schools afforded, save for a short time after he left school, when he received private instruction in mathematics. His spelling was rather defective

Remarkable stories are told of his great physical strength and development at an early age. He was an acknowledged leader among his companions, and was early noted for that nobleness of character, fairness and veracity which characterized his whole life.

When George was 14 years old he had a desire to go to sea, and a midshipman's warrant was secured for him, but through the opposition of his mother the idea was abandoned. Two years later he was appointed surveyor to the immense estate of Lord Fairfax. In this business he spent three years in a rough frontier life, gaining experience which afterwards proved very essential to him. In 1751, though only 19 years of age, he was appointed adjutant with the rank of major in the Virginia militia, then being trained for active service against the French and Indians. Soon after this he sailed to the West Indies with his brother Lawrence, who went there to restore his health. They soon returned, and in the summer of 1752 Lawrence died, leaving a large fortune to an infant daughter who did not long survive him. On her demise the estate of Mount Vernon was given to George.

Upon the arrival of Robert Dinwiddie, as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, in 1752, the militia was reorganized, and the province divided into four military districts, of which the northern was assigned to Washington as adjutant general. Shortly after this a very perilous mission was assigned him and accepted, which others had refused. This was to proceed to the French post near Lake Erie in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The distance to be traversed was between 500 and 600 miles. Winter was at hand, and the journey was to be made without military escort, through a territory occupied by Indians. The

trip was a perilous one, and several times he came near losing his life, yet he returned in safety and furnished a full and useful report of his expedition. A regiment of 300 men was raised in Virginia and put in command of Col. Joshua Fry, and Major Washington was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. Active war was then begun against the French and Indians, in which Washington took a most important part. In the memorable event of July 9, 1755, known as Braddock's defeat, Washington was almost the only officer of distinction who escaped from the calamities of the day with life and honor. The other aids of Braddock were disabled early in the action, and Washington alone was left in that capacity on the field. In a letter to his brother he says: "I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." An Indian sharpshooter said he was not born to be killed by a bullet, for he had taken direct aim at him seventeen times, and failed to hit him.

After having been five years in the military service, and vainly sought promotion in the royal army, he took advantage of the fall of Fort Duquesne and the expulsion of the French from the valley of the Ohio, to resign his commission. Soon after he entered the Legislature, where, although not a leader, he took an active and important part. January 17, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the wealthy widow of John Parke Custis.

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

commission as commander-in-chief of the army to the Continental Congress sitting at Annapolis. He retired immediately to Mount Vernon and resumed his occupation as a farmer and planter, shunning all connection with public life.

In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country; trials from the impoverished condition of the country, owing to the war and want of credit; trials from the beginnings of party strife. He was no partisan. His clear judgment could discern the golden mean; and while perhaps this alone kept our government from sinking at the very outset, it left him exposed to attacks from both sides, which were often bitter and very annoying.

At the expiration of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. At the end of this term many were anxious that he be re-elected, but he absolutely refused a third nomination. On the fourth of March, 1797, at the expiration of his second term as President, he returned to his home, hoping to pass there his few remaining years free from the annoyances of public life. Later in the year, however, his repose seemed likely to be interrupted by war with France. At the prospect of such a war he was again urged to take command of the armies. He chose his subordinate officers and left to them the charge of matters in the field, which he superintended from his home. In accepting the command he made the reservation that he was not to be in the field until it was necessary. In the midst of these preparations his life was suddenly cut off. December 12, he took a severe cold from a ride in the rain, which, settling in his throat, produced inflammation, and terminated fatally on the night of the fourteenth. On the eighteenth his body was borne with military honors to its final resting place, and interred in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

Of the character of Washington it is impossible to speak but in terms of the highest respect and admiration. The more we see of the operations of our government, and the more deeply we feel the difficulty of uniting all opinions in a common interest, the more highly we must estimate the force of his talent and character, which have been able to challenge the reverence of all parties, and principles, and nations, and to win a fame as extended as the limits of the globe, and which we cannot but believe will be as lasting as the existence of man.

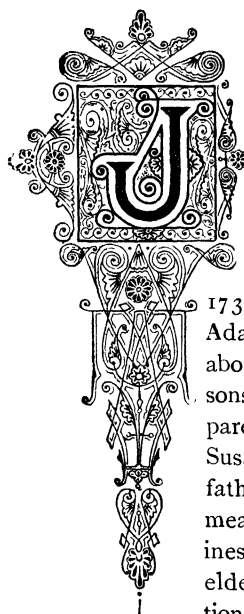
The person of Washington was unusually tan, erect and well proportioned. His muscular strength was great. His features were of a beautiful symmetry. He commanded respect without any appearance of haughtiness, and ever serious without being dull.



John Adams



JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

tions he offered on the subject became very popular throughout the Province, and were adopted word for word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Legislature) in 1770.

Mr. Adams was chosen one of the first delegates from Massachusetts to the first Continental Congress, which met in 1774. Here he distinguished himself by his capacity for business and for debate, and advocated the movement for independence against the majority of the members. In May, 1776, he moved and carried a resolution in Congress that the Colonies should assume the duties of self-government. He was a prominent member of the committee of five appointed June 11, to prepare a declaration of independence. This article was drawn by Jefferson, but on Adams devolved the task of battling it through Congress in a three days debate.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence was passed, while his soul was yet warm with the glow of excited feeling, he wrote a letter to his wife which, as we read it now, seems to have been dictated by the spirit of prophecy. "Yesterday," he says, "the greatest question was decided that ever was debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, 'that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states.' The day is passed. The fourth of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows

games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for ever. You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these States; yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph, although you and I may rue, which I hope we shall not."

In November, 1777, Mr. Adams was appointed a delegate to France, and to co-operate with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were then in Paris, in the endeavor to obtain assistance in arms and money from the French Government. This was a severe trial to his patriotism, as it separated him from his home, compelled him to cross the ocean in winter, and exposed him to great peril of capture by the British cruisers, who were seeking him. He left France June 17, 1779. In September of the same year he was again chosen to go to Paris, and there hold himself in readiness to negotiate a treaty of peace and of commerce with Great Britain, as soon as the British Cabinet might be found willing to listen to such proposals. He sailed for France in November, from there he went to Holland, where he negotiated important loans and formed important commercial treaties.

Finally a treaty of peace with England was signed Jan. 21, 1783. The re-action from the excitement, toil and anxiety through which Mr. Adams had passed threw him into a fever. After suffering from a continued fever and becoming feeble and emaciated he was advised to go to England to drink the waters of Bath. While in England, still drooping and desponding, he received dispatches from his own government urging the necessity of his going to Amsterdam to negotiate another loan. It was winter, his health was delicate, yet he immediately set out, and through storm, on sea, on horseback and foot, he made the trip.

February 24, 1785, Congress appointed Mr. Adams envoy to the Court of St. James. Here he met face to face the King of England, who had so long regarded him as a traitor. As England did not condescend to appoint a minister to the United States, and as Mr. Adams felt that he was accomplishing but little, he sought permission to return to his own country, where he arrived in June, 1788.

When Washington was first chosen President, John Adams, rendered illustrious by his signal services at home and abroad, was chosen Vice President. Again at the second election of Washington as President, Adams was chosen Vice President. In 1796, Washington retired from public life, and Mr. Adams was elected President, though not without much opposition. Serving in this office four years, he was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, his opponent in politics.

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred the class of atheist philosophers who he claimed caused it. On the other hand Jefferson's sympathies were strongly enlisted in behalf of the French people. Hence originated the alienation between these distinguished men, and two powerful parties were thus soon organized, Adams at the head of the one whose sympathies were with England and Jefferson led the other in sympathy with France.

The world has seldom seen a spectacle of more moral beauty and grandeur, than was presented by the old age of Mr. Adams. The violence of party feeling had died away, and he had begun to receive that just appreciation which, to most men, is not accorded till after death. No one could look upon his venerable form, and think of what he had done and suffered, and how he had given up all the prime and strength of his life to the public good, without the deepest emotion of gratitude and respect. It was his peculiar good fortune to witness the complete success of the institution which he had been so active in creating and supporting. In 1824, his cup of happiness was filled to the brim, by seeing his son elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people.

The fourth of July, 1826, which completed the half century since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, arrived, and there were but three of the signers of that immortal instrument left upon the earth to hail its morning light. And, as it is well known, on that day two of these finished their earthly pilgrimage, a coincidence so remarkable as to seem miraculous. For a few days before Mr. Adams had been rapidly failing, and on the morning of the fourth he found himself too weak to rise from his bed. On being requested to name a toast for the customary celebration of the day, he exclaimed "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER." When the day was ushered in, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannons, he was asked by one of his attendants if he knew what day it was? He replied, "O yes; it is the glorious fourth of July—God bless it—God bless you all." In the course of the day he said, "It is a great and glorious day." The last words he uttered were, "Jefferson survives." But he had, at one o'clock, resigned his spirit into the hands of his God.

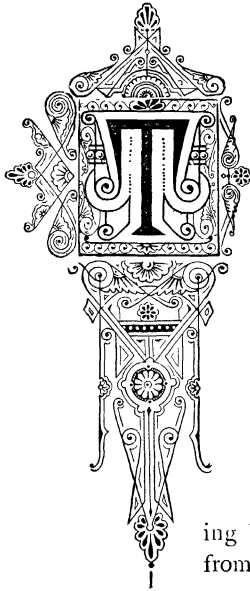
The personal appearance and manners of Mr. Adams were not particularly prepossessing. His face, as his portrait manifests, was intellectual and expressive, but his figure was low and ungraceful, and his manners were frequently abrupt and uncourteous. He had neither the lofty dignity of Washington, nor the engaging elegance and gracefulness which marked the manners and address of Jefferson.



Th. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

there was not to be found, perhaps, in all Virginia, a more pureminded, upright, gentlemanly young man.

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and accuteness as a lawyer. But the times called for greater action. The policy of England had awakened the spirit of resistance of the American Colonies, and the enlarged views which Jefferson had ever entertained, soon led him into active political life. In 1769 he was chosen a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and highly accomplished young widow

Upon Mr. Jefferson's large estate at Shadwell, there was a majestic swell of land, called Monticello, which commanded a prospect of wonderful extent and beauty. This spot Mr. Jefferson selected for his new home; and here he reared a mansion of modest yet elegant architecture, which, next to Mount Vernon became the most distinguished resort in our land.

In 1775 he was sent to the Colonial Congress, where, though a silent member, his abilities as a writer and a reasoner soon become known, and he was placed upon a number of important committees, and was chairman of the one appointed for the drawing up of a declaration of independence. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the paper. Franklin and Adams suggested a few verbal changes before it was submitted to Congress. On June 28, a few slight changes were made in it by Congress, and it was passed and signed July 4, 1776. What must have been the feelings of that

man—what the emotions that swelled his breast—who was charged with the preparation of that Declaration, which, while it made known the wrongs of America, was also to publish her to the world, free, sovereign and independent. It is one of the most remarkable papers ever written; and did no other effort of the mind of its author exist, that alone would be sufficient to stamp his name with immortality.

In 1779 Mr. Jefferson was elected successor to Patrick Henry, as Governor of Virginia. At one time the British officer, Tarleton, sent a secret expedition to Monticello, to capture the Governor. Scarcely five minutes elapsed after the hurried escape of Mr. Jefferson and his family, ere his mansion was in possession of the British troops. His wife's health, never very good, was much injured by this excitement, and in the summer of 1782 she died.

Mr. Jefferson was elected to Congress in 1783. Two years later he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France. Returning to the United States in September, 1789, he became Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet. This position he resigned Jan. 1, 1794. In 1797, he was chosen Vice President, and four years later was elected President over Mr. Adams, with Aaron Burr as Vice President. In 1804 he was re-elected with wonderful unanimity, and George Clinton, Vice President.

The early part of Mr. Jefferson's second administration was disturbed by an event which threatened the tranquility and peace of the Union; this was the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Defeated in the late election to the Vice Presidency, and led on by an unprincipled ambition, this extraordinary man formed the plan of a military expedition into the Spanish territories on our southwestern frontier, for the purpose of forming there a new republic. This has been generally supposed was a mere pretext; and although it has not been generally known what his real plans were, there is no doubt that they were of a far more dangerous character.

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly forty years, he had been continually before the public, and all that time had been employed in offices of the greatest trust and responsibility. Having thus devoted the best part of his life to the service of his country, he now felt desirous of that rest which his declining years required, and upon the organization of the new administration, in March, 1809, he bid farewell forever to public life, and retired to Monticello.

Mr. Jefferson was profuse in his hospitality. Whole families came in their coaches with their horses,—fathers and mothers, boys and girls, babies and nurses,—and remained three and even six months. Life at Monticello, for years, resembled that at a fashionable watering-place.

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

sary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the Declaration, to participate in their festivities. But an illness, which had been of several weeks duration, and had been continually increasing, compelled him to decline the invitation.

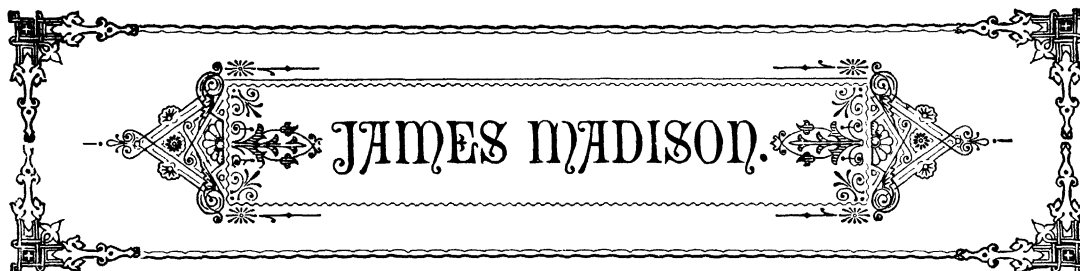
On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants, entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him, the day of the month, and on being told it was the third of July, he expressed the earnest wish that he might be permitted to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary. His prayer was heard—that day, whose dawn was hailed with such rapture through our land, burst upon his eyes, and then they were closed forever. And what a noble consummation of a noble life! To die on that day,—the birthday of a nation,—the day which his own name and his own act had rendered glorious; to die amidst the rejoicings and festivities of a whole nation, who looked up to him, as the author, under God, of their greatest blessings, was all that was wanting to fill up the record his life.

Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated their desponding countrymen; for half a century they had labored together for the good of the country; and now hand in hand they depart. In their lives they had been united in the same great cause of liberty, and in their deaths they were not divided.

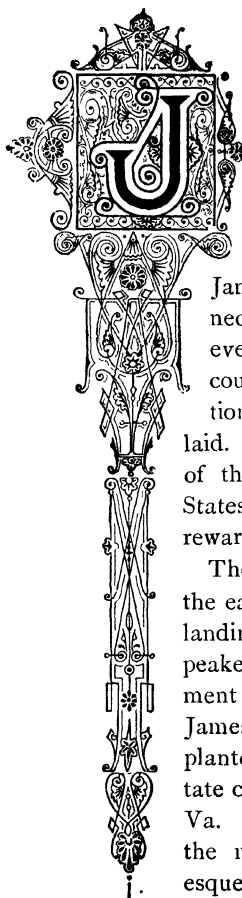
In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude of mind as well as personal courage; and his command of temper was such that his oldest and most intimate friends never recollected to have seen him in a passion. His manners, though dignified, were simple and unaffected, and his hospitality was so unbounded that all found at his house a ready welcome. In conversation he was fluent, eloquent and enthusiastic; and his language was remarkably pure and correct. He was a finished classical scholar, and in his writings is discernable the care with which he formed his style upon the best models of antiquity.



James Madison



JAMES MADISON.



JAMES MADISON, "Father of the Constitution," and fourth President of the United States, was born March 16, 1757, and died at his home in Virginia, June 28, 1836. The name of James Madison is inseparably connected with most of the important events in that heroic period of our country during which the foundations of this great republic were laid. He was the last of the founders of the Constitution of the United States to be called to his eternal reward.

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

The early education of Mr. Madison was conducted mostly at home under a private tutor. At the age of 18 he was sent to Princeton College, in New Jersey. Here he applied himself to study with the most im-

prudent zeal; allowing himself, for months, but three hours' sleep out of the 24. His health thus became so seriously impaired that he never recovered any vigor of constitution. He graduated in 1771, with a feeble body, with a character of utmost purity, and with a mind highly disciplined and richly stored with learning which embellished and gave proficiency to his subsequent career.

Returning to Virginia, he commenced the study of law and a course of extensive and systematic reading. This educational course, the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the society with which he associated, all combined to inspire him with a strong love of liberty, and to train him for his life-work of a statesman. Being naturally of a religious turn of mind, and his frail health leading him to think that his life was not to be long, he directed especial attention to theological studies. Endowed with a mind singularly free from passion and prejudice, and with almost unequalled powers of reasoning, he weighed all the arguments for and against revealed religion, until his faith became so established as never to be shaken.

In the spring of 1776, when 26 years of age, he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, to frame the constitution of the State. The next year (1777), he was a candidate for the General Assembly. He refused to treat the whisky-loving voters, and consequently lost his election; but those who had witnessed the talent, energy and public spirit of the modest young man, enlisted themselves in his behalf, and he was appointed to the Executive Council.

Both Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson were Governors of Virginia while Mr. Madison remained member of the Council; and their appreciation of his

intellectual, social and moral worth, contributed not a little to his subsequent eminence. In the year 1780, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress. Here he met the most illustrious men in our land, and he was immediately assigned to one of the most conspicuous positions among them.

For three years Mr. Madison continued in Congress, one of its most active and influential members. In the year 1784, his term having expired, he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature.

No man felt more deeply than Mr. Madison the utter inefficiency of the old confederacy, with no national government, with no power to form treaties which would be binding, or to enforce law. There was not any State more prominent than Virginia in the declaration, that an efficient national government must be formed. In January, 1786, Mr. Madison carried a resolution through the General Assembly of Virginia, inviting the other States to appoint commissioners to meet in convention at Annapolis to discuss this subject. Five States only were represented. The convention, however, issued another call, drawn up by Mr. Madison, urging all the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia, in May, 1787, to draft a Constitution for the United States, to take the place of that Confederate League. The delegates met at the time appointed. Every State but Rhode Island was represented. George Washington was chosen president of the convention; and the present Constitution of the United States was then and there formed. There was, perhaps, no mind and no pen more active in framing this immortal document than the mind and the pen of James Madison.

The Constitution, adopted by a vote 81 to 79, was to be presented to the several States for acceptance. But grave solicitude was felt. Should it be rejected we should be left but a conglomeration of independent States, with but little power at home and little respect abroad. Mr. Madison was selected by the convention to draw up an address to the people of the United States, expounding the principles of the Constitution, and urging its adoption. There was great opposition to it at first, but it at length triumphed over all, and went into effect in 1789.

Mr. Madison was elected to the House of Representatives in the first Congress, and soon became the avowed leader of the Republican party. While in New York attending Congress, he met Mrs. Todd, a young widow of remarkable power of fascination, whom he married. She was in person and character queenly, and probably no lady has thus far occupied so prominent a position in the very peculiar society which has constituted our republican court as Mrs. Madison.

Mr. Madison served as Secretary of State under Jefferson, and at the close of his administration was chosen President. At this time the encroachments of England had brought us to the verge of war.

British orders in council destroyed our commerce, and our flag was exposed to constant insult. Mr. Madison was a man of peace. Scholarly in his taste, retiring in his disposition, war had no charms for him. But the meekest spirit can be roused. It makes one's blood boil, even now, to think of an American ship brought to, upon the ocean, by the guns of an English cruiser. A young lieutenant steps on board and orders the crew to be paraded before him. With great nonchalance he selects any number whom he may please to designate as British subjects; orders them down the ship's side into his boat; and places them on the gun-deck of his man-of-war, to fight, by compulsion, the battles of England. This right of search and impressment, no efforts of our Government could induce the British cabinet to relinquish.

On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority, and entered upon his second term of office. This is not the place to describe the various adventures of this war on the land and on the water. Our infant navy then laid the foundations of its renown in grappling with the most formidable power which ever swept the seas. The contest commenced in earnest by the appearance of a British fleet, early in February, 1813, in Chesapeake Bay, declaring nearly the whole coast of the United States under blockade.

The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

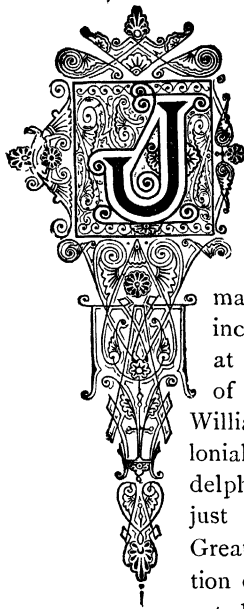
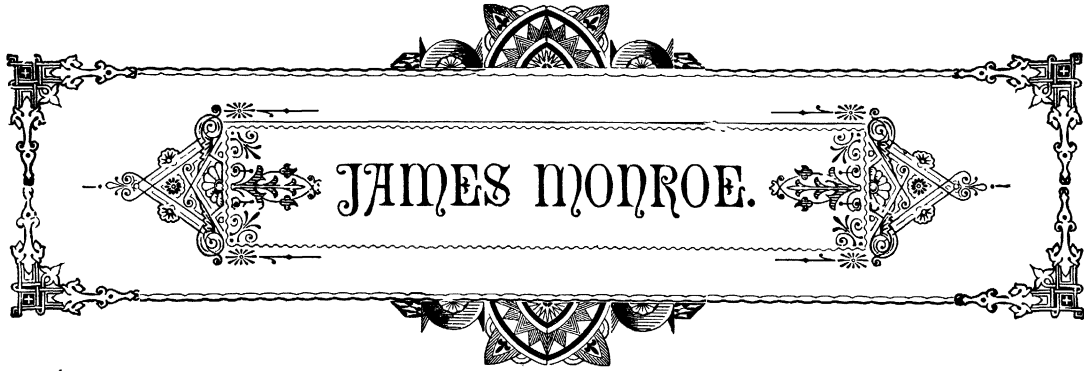
The straggling little city of Washington was thrown into consternation. The cannon of the brief conflict at Bladensburg echoed through the streets of the metropolis. The whole population fled from the city. The President, leaving Mrs. Madison in the White House, with her carriage drawn up at the door to await his speedy return, hurried to meet the officers in a council of war. He met our troops utterly routed, and he could not go back without danger of being captured. But few hours elapsed ere the Presidential Mansion, the Capitol, and all the public buildings in Washington were in flames.

The war closed after two years of fighting, and on Feb. 13, 1815, the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent.

On the 4th of March, 1817, his second term of office expired, and he resigned the Presidential chair to his friend, James Monroe. He retired to his beautiful home at Montpelier, and there passed the remainder of his days. On June 28, 1836, then at the age of 85 years, he fell asleep in death. Mrs. Madison died July 12, 1849.



James Monroe



AMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence.

Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife

for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandy wine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

In 1782, he was elected from King George county, a member of the Legislature of Virginia, and by that body he was elevated to a seat in the Executive Council. He was thus honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens at 23 years of age; and having at this early period displayed some of that ability and aptitude for legislation, which were afterwards employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

he was in the succeeding year chosen a member of the Congress of the United States.

Deeply as Mr. Monroe felt the imperfections of the old Confederacy, he was opposed to the new Constitution, thinking, with many others of the Republican party, that it gave too much power to the Central Government, and not enough to the individual States. Still he retained the esteem of his friends who were its warm supporters, and who, notwithstanding his opposition secured its adoption. In 1789, he became a member of the United States Senate; which office he held for four years. Every month the line of distinction between the two great parties which divided the nation, the Federal and the Republican, was growing more distinct. The two prominent ideas which now separated them were, that the Republican party was in sympathy with France, and also in favor of such a strict construction of the Constitution as to give the Central Government as little power, and the State Governments as much power, as the Constitution would warrant. The Federalists sympathized with England, and were in favor of a liberal construction of the Constitution, which would give as much power to the Central Government as that document could possibly authorize.

The leading Federalists and Republicans were alike noble men, consecrating all their energies to the good of the nation. Two more honest men or more pure patriots than John Adams the Federalist, and James Monroe the Republican, never breathed. In building up this majestic nation, which is destined to eclipse all Grecian and Assyrian greatness, the combination of their antagonism was needed to create the right equilibrium. And yet each in his day was denounced as almost a demon.

Washington was then President. England had espoused the cause of the Bourbons against the principles of the French Revolution. All Europe was drawn into the conflict. We were feeble and far away. Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality between these contending powers. France had helped us in the struggle for our liberties. All the despotisms of Europe were now combined to prevent the French from escaping from a tyranny a thousand-fold worse than that which we had endured. Col. Monroe, more magnanimous than prudent, was anxious that, at whatever hazard, we should help our old allies in their extremity. It was the impulse of a generous and noble nature. He violently opposed the President's proclamation as ungrateful and wanting in magnanimity.

Washington, who could appreciate such a character, developed his calm, serene, almost divine greatness, by appointing that very James Monroe, who was denouncing the policy of the Government, as the minister of that Government to the Republic of France. Mr. Monroe was welcomed by the National Convention in France with the most enthusiastic demonstrations.

Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Monroe was elected Governor of Virginia, and held the office for three years. He was again sent to France to co-operate with Chancellor Livingston in obtaining the vast territory then known as the Province of Louisiana, which France had but shortly before obtained from Spain. Their united efforts were successful. For the comparatively small sum of fifteen millions of dollars, the entire territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana were added to the United States. This was probably the largest transfer of real estate which was ever made in all the history of the world.

From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to his home and was again chosen Governor of Virginia. This he soon resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State under Madison. While in this office war with England was declared, the Secretary of War resigned, and during these trying times, the duties of the War Department were also put upon him. He was truly the armor-bearer of President Madison, and the most efficient business man in his cabinet. Upon the return of peace he resigned the Department of War, but continued in the office of Secretary of State until the expiration of Mr. Madison's administration. At the election held the previous autumn Mr. Monroe himself had been chosen President with but little opposition, and upon March 4, 1817, was inaugurated. Four years later he was elected for a second term.

Among the important measures of his Presidency were the cession of Florida to the United States; the Missouri Compromise, and the "Monroe doctrine."

This famous doctrine, since known as the "Monroe doctrine," was enunciated by him in 1823. At that time the United States had recognized the independence of the South American states, and did not wish to have European powers longer attempting to subdue portions of the American Continent. The doctrine is as follows: "That we should consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and "that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States." This doctrine immediately affected the course of foreign governments, and has become the approved sentiment of the United States.

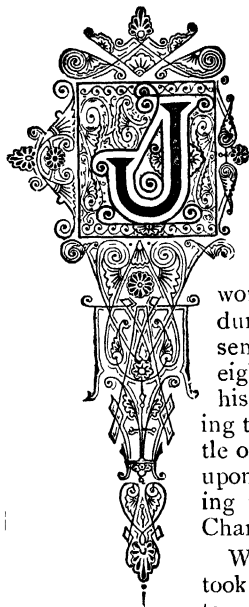
At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830, when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died, on the 4th of July, 1831



J. Q. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the sixth President of the United States, was born in the rural home of his honored father, John Adams, in Quincy, Mass., on the 11th of July, 1767. His mother, a woman of exalted worth, watched over his childhood during the almost constant absence of his father. When but eight years of age, he stood with his mother on an eminence, listening to the booming of the great battle on Bunker's Hill, and gazing on upon the smoke and flames billowing up from the conflagration of Charlestown.

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe, through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

Mr. John Adams had scarcely returned to this country, in 1779, ere he was again sent abroad. Again John Quincy accompanied his father. At Paris he applied himself with great diligence, for six months, to study; then accompanied his father to Holland, where he entered, first a school in Amsterdam, then the University at Leyden. About a year from this time, in 1781, when the manly boy was but fourteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. Dana, our minister to the Russian court, as his private secretary.

In this school of incessant labor and of enobling culture he spent fourteen months, and then returned to Holland through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg and Bremen. This long journey he took alone, in the winter, when in his sixteenth year. Again he resumed his studies, under a private tutor, at Hague. Thence,

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britain. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal, upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London; a lady endow'd with that beauty and those accomplishments which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety-nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which

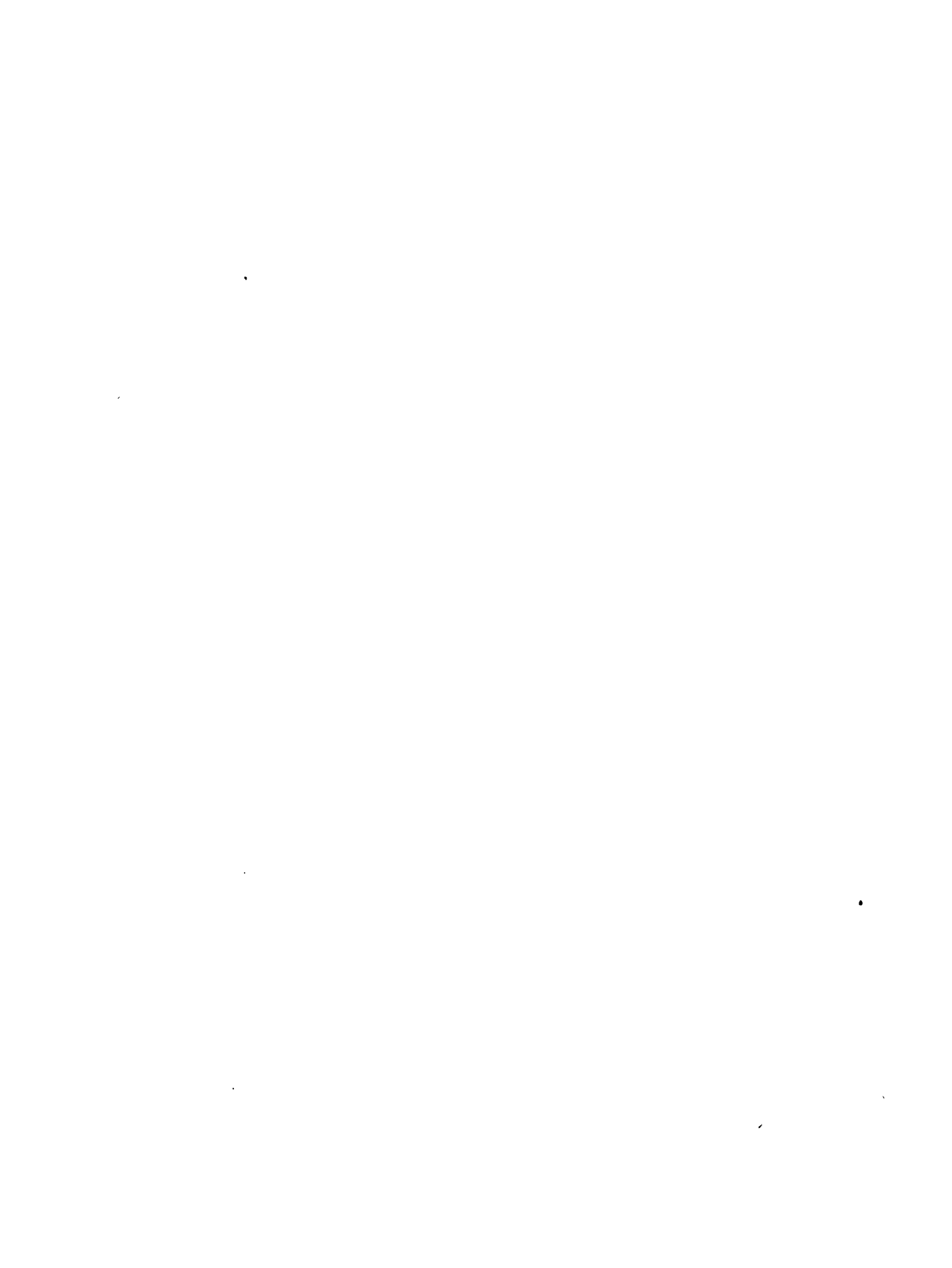
was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury, with expulsion from the House, with assassination, but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth;*" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content.*" These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."

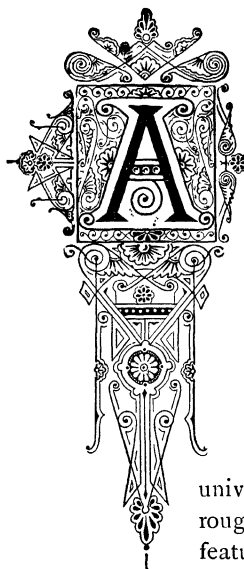




Andrew Jackson



ANDREW JACKSON.



ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very

little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange,

and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear, and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philadelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's administration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britain commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Fayetteville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March, 1814. The bend

of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breastwork of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors, with an ample supply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly everyone of the nine hundred warriors were killed. A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terrific slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians. No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue. Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans, and the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr. Jackson's life were that of a devoted Christian man.



Mr. Warburton



MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village,

he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing reputation led him after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years, constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's administration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

Soon after this, in 1828, he was chosen Governor of the State of New York, and accordingly resigned his seat in the Senate. Probably no one in the United States contributed so much towards ejecting John Q. Adams from the Presidential chair, and placing in it Andrew Jackson, as did Martin Van Buren. Whether entitled to the reputation or not, he certainly was regarded throughout the United States as one of the most skillful, sagacious and cunning of politicians. It was supposed that no one knew so well as he how to touch the secret springs of action; how to pull all the wires to put his machinery in motion; and how to organize a political army which would, secretly and stealthily accomplish the most gigantic results. By these powers it is said that he outwitted Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and secured results which few thought then could be accomplished.

When Andrew Jackson was elected President he appointed Mr. Van Buren Secretary of State. This position he resigned in 1831, and was immediately appointed Minister to England, where he went the same autumn. The Senate, however, when it met, refused to ratify the nomination, and he returned

home, apparently untroubled; was nominated Vice President in the place of Calhoun, at the re-election of President Jackson; and with smiles for all and frowns for none, he took his place at the head of that Senate which had refused to confirm his nomination as ambassador.

His rejection by the Senate roused all the zeal of President Jackson in behalf of his repudiated favorite; and this, probably more than any other cause, secured his elevation to the chair of the Chief Executive. On the 20th of May, 1836, Mr. Van Buren received the Democratic nomination to succeed Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. He was elected by a handsome majority, to the delight of the retiring President. "Leaving New York out of the canvass," says Mr. Parton, "the election of Mr. Van Buren to the Presidency was as much the act of Gen. Jackson as though the Constitution had conferred upon him the power to appoint a successor."

His administration was filled with exciting events. The insurrection in Canada, which threatened to involve this country in war with England, the agitation of the slavery question, and finally the great commercial panic which spread over the country, all were trials to his wisdom. The financial distress was attributed to the management of the Democratic party, and brought the President into such disfavor that he failed of re-election.

With the exception of being nominated for the Presidency by the "Free Soil" Democrats, in 1848, Mr. Van Buren lived quietly upon his estate until his death.

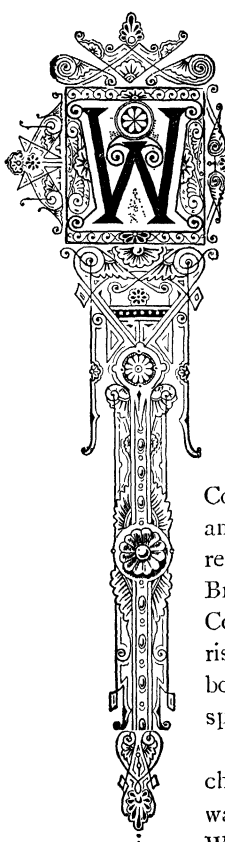
He had ever been a prudent man, of frugal habits, and living within his income, had now fortunately a competence for his declining years. His unblemished character, his commanding abilities, his unquestioned patriotism, and the distinguished positions which he had occupied in the government of our country, secured to him not only the homage of his party, but the respect of the whole community. It was on the 4th of March, 1841, that Mr. Van Buren retired from the presidency. From his fine estate at Lindenwald, he still exerted a powerful influence upon the politics of the country. From this time until his death, on the 24th of July, 1862, at the age of eighty years, he resided at Lindenwald, a gentleman of leisure, of culture and of wealth; enjoying in a healthy old age, probably far more happiness than he had before experienced amid the stormy scenes of his active life.



W. H. Harrison



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the ninth President of the United States, was born at Berkeley, Va., Feb. 9, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was in comparatively opulent circumstances, and was one of the most distinguished men of his day. He was an intimate friend of George Washington, was early elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was conspicuous among the patriots of Virginia in resisting the encroachments of the British crown. In the celebrated Congress of 1775, Benjamin Harrison and John Hancock were both candidates for the office of speaker.

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Upon the outbreak of the Indian troubles, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, he abandoned his medical studies and entered the army, having obtained a commission of Ensign from Presi-

dent Washington. He was then but 19 years old. From that time he passed gradually upward in rank until he became aid to General Wayne, after whose death he resigned his commission. He was then appointed Secretary of the North-western Territory. This Territory was then entitled to but one member in Congress and Capt. Harrison was chosen to fill that position.

In the spring of 1800 the North-western Territory was divided by Congress into two portions. The eastern portion, comprising the region now embraced in the State of Ohio, was called "The Territory north-west of the Ohio." The western portion, which included what is now called Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was called the "Indiana Territory." William Henry Harrison, then 27 years of age, was appointed by John Adams, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and immediately after, also Governor of Upper Louisiana. He was thus ruler over almost as extensive a realm as any sovereign upon the globe. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and was invested with powers nearly dictatorial over the now rapidly increasing white population. The ability and fidelity with which he discharged these responsible duties may be inferred from the fact that he was four times appointed to this office—first by John Adams, twice by Thomas Jefferson and afterwards by President Madison.

When he began his administration there were but three white settlements in that almost boundless region, now crowded with cities and resounding with all the tumult of wealth and traffic. One of these settlements was on the Ohio, nearly opposite Louisville; one at Vincennes, on the Wabash, and the third a French settlement.

The vast wilderness over which Gov. Harrison reigned was filled with many tribes of Indians. About

the year 1806, two extraordinary men, twin brothers, of the Shawnese tribe, rose among them. One of these was called Tecumseh, or "The Crouching Panther;" the other, Olliwacheca, or "The Prophet." Tecumseh was not only an Indian warrior, but a man of great sagacity, far-reaching foresight and indomitable perseverance in any enterprise in which he might engage. He was inspired with the highest enthusiasm, and had long regarded with dread and with hatred the encroachment of the whites upon the hunting-grounds of his fathers. His brother, the Prophet, was an orator, who could sway the feelings of the untutored Indian as the gale tossed the tree-tops beneath which they dwelt.

But the Prophet was not merely an orator: he was, in the superstitious minds of the Indians, invested with the superhuman dignity of a medicine-man or a magician. With an enthusiasm unsurpassed by Peter the Hermit rousing Europe to the crusades, he went from tribe to tribe, assuming that he was specially sent by the Great Spirit.

Gov. Harrison made many attempts to conciliate the Indians, but at last the war came, and at Tippecanoe the Indians were routed with great slaughter. October 28, 1812, his army began its march. When near the Prophet's town three Indians of rank made their appearance and inquired why Gov. Harrison was approaching them in so hostile an attitude. After a short conference, arrangements were made for a meeting the next day, to agree upon terms of peace.

But Gov. Harrison was too well acquainted with the Indian character to be deceived by such pretensions. Selecting a favorable spot for his night's encampment, he took every precaution against surprise. His troops were posted in a hollow square, and slept upon their arms.

The troops threw themselves upon the ground for rest; but every man had his accoutrements on, his loaded musket by his side, and his bayonet fixed. The wakeful Governor, between three and four o'clock in the morning, had risen, and was sitting in conversation with his aids by the embers of a waning fire. It was a chill, cloudy morning with a drizzling rain. In the darkness, the Indians had crept as near as possible, and just then, with a savage yell, rushed, with all the desperation which superstition and passion most highly inflamed could give, upon the left flank of the little army. The savages had been amply provided with guns and ammunition by the English. Their war-whoop was accompanied by a shower of bullets.

The camp-fires were instantly extinguished, as the light aided the Indians in their aim. With hideous yells, the Indian bands rushed on, not doubting a speedy and an entire victory. But Gen. Harrison's troops stood as immovable as the rocks around them until day dawned: they then made a simultaneous charge with the bayonet, and swept every thing before them, and completely routing the foe.

Gov. Harrison now had all his energies tasked to the utmost. The British descending from the Canadas, were of themselves a very formidable force; but with their savage allies, rushing like wolves from the forest, searching out every remote farm-house, burning, plundering, scalping, torturing, the wide frontier was plunged into a state of consternation which even the most vivid imagination can but faintly conceive. The war-whoop was resounding everywhere in the forest. The horizon was illuminated with the conflagration of the cabins of the settlers. Gen. Hull had made the ignominious surrender of his forces at Detroit. Under these despairing circumstances, Gov. Harrison was appointed by President Madison commander-in-chief of the North-western army, with orders to retake Detroit, and to protect the frontiers.

It would be difficult to place a man in a situation demanding more energy, sagacity and courage; but General Harrison was found equal to the position, and nobly and triumphantly did he meet all the responsibilities.

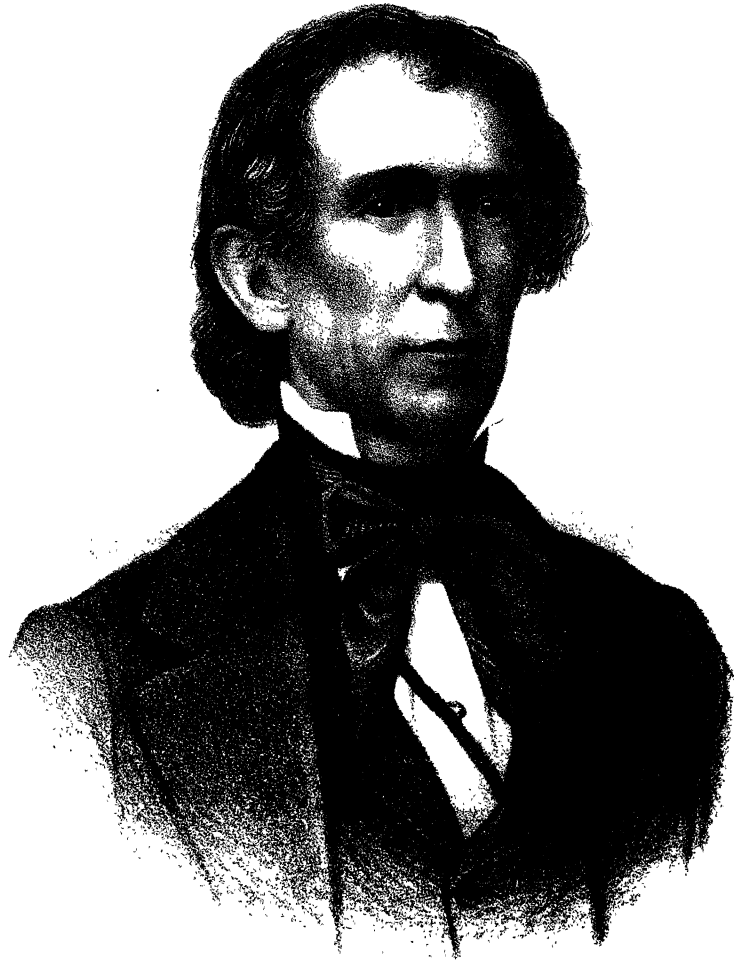
He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after the battle. The only fare he could give them was beef roasted before the fire, without bread or salt.

In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

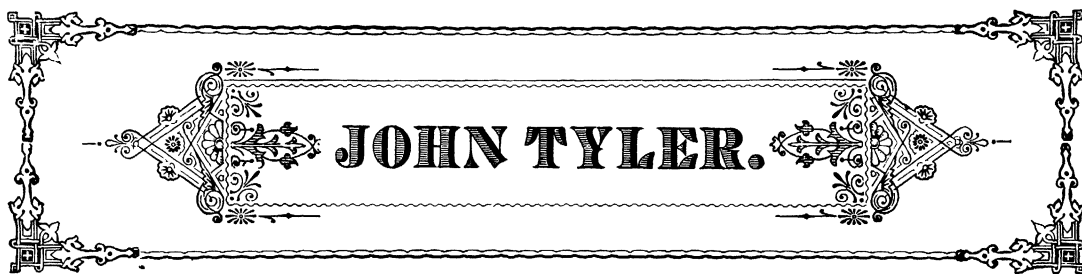
In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. The contest was very animated. Gen. Jackson gave all his influence to prevent Harrison's election; but his triumph was signal.

The cabinet which he formed, with Daniel Webster at its head as Secretary of State, was one of the most brilliant with which any President had ever been surrounded. Never were the prospects of an administration more flattering, or the hopes of the country more sanguine. In the midst of these bright and joyous prospects, Gen. Harrison was seized by a pleurisy-fever and after a few days of violent sickness, died on the 4th of April; just one month after his inauguration as President of the United States.



John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



JOHN TYLER, the tenth President of the United States. He was born in Charles-city Co., Va., March 29, 1790. He was the favored child of affluence and high social position. At the early age of twelve, John entered William and Mary College and graduated with much honor when but seventeen years old. After graduating, he devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of law, partly with his father and partly with Edmund Randolph, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia.

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was

not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

When but twenty-six years of age, he was elected a member of Congress. Here he acted earnestly and ably with the Democratic party, opposing a national bank, internal improvements by the General Govern-

ment, a protective tariff, and advocating a strict construction of the Constitution, and the most careful vigilance over State rights. His labors in Congress were so arduous that before the close of his second term he found it necessary to resign and retire to his estate in Charles-city Co., to recruit his health. He, however, soon after consented to take his seat in the State Legislature, where his influence was powerful in promoting public works of great utility. With a reputation thus constantly increasing, he was chosen by a very large majority of votes, Governor of his native State. His administration was signally a successful one. His popularity secured his re-election.

John Randolph, a brilliant, erratic, half-crazed man, then represented Virginia in the Senate of the United States. A portion of the Democratic party was displeased with Mr. Randolph's wayward course, and brought forward John Tyler as his opponent, considering him the only man in Virginia of sufficient popularity to succeed against the renowned orator of Roanoke. Mr. Tyler was the victor.

In accordance with his professions, upon taking his seat in the Senate, he joined the ranks of the opposition. He opposed the tariff; he spoke against and voted against the bank as unconstitutional; he strenuously opposed all restrictions upon slavery, resisting all projects of internal improvements by the General Government, and avowed his sympathy with Mr. Calhoun's view of nullification; he declared that Gen. Jackson, by his opposition to the nullifiers, had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party. Such was Mr. Tyler's record in Congress,—a record in perfect accordance with the principles which he had always avowed.

Returning to Virginia, he resumed the practice of his profession. There was a split in the Democratic

party. His friends still regarded him as a true Jeffersonian, gave him a dinner, and showered compliments upon him. He had now attained the age of forty-six. His career had been very brilliant. In consequence of his devotion to public business, his private affairs had fallen into some disorder; and it was not without satisfaction that he resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the culture of his plantation. Soon after this he removed to Williamsburg, for the better education of his children; and he again took his seat in the Legislature of Virginia.

By the Southern Whigs, he was sent to the national convention at Harrisburg to nominate a President in 1839. The majority of votes were given to Gen. Harrison, a genuine Whig, much to the disappointment of the South, who wished for Henry Clay. To conciliate the Southern Whigs and to secure their vote, the convention then nominated John Tyler for Vice President. It was well known that he was not in sympathy with the Whig party in the North: but the Vice President has but very little power in the Government, his main and almost only duty being to preside over the meetings of the Senate. Thus it happened that a Whig President, and, in reality, a Democratic Vice President were chosen.

In 1841, Mr. Tyler was inaugurated Vice President of the United States. In one short month from that time, President Harrison died, and Mr. Tyler thus found himself, to his own surprise and that of the whole Nation, an occupant of the Presidential chair. This was a new test of the stability of our institutions, as it was the first time in the history of our country that such an event had occurred. Mr. Tyler was at home in Williamsburg when he received the unexpected tidings of the death of President Harrison. He hastened to Washington, and on the 6th of April was inaugurated to the high and responsible office. He was placed in a position of exceeding delicacy and difficulty. All his long life he had been opposed to the main principles of the party which had brought him into power. He had ever been a consistent, honest man, with an unblemished record. Gen. Harrison had selected a Whig cabinet. Should he retain them, and thus surround himself with counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He recommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

The Whigs carried through Congress a bill for the incorporation of a fiscal bank of the United States. The President, after ten days' delay, returned it with his veto. He suggested, however, that he would

approve of a bill drawn up upon such a plan as he proposed. Such a bill was accordingly prepared, and privately submitted to him. He gave it his approval. It was passed without alteration, and he sent it back with his veto. Here commenced the open rupture. It is said that Mr. Tyler was provoked to this measure by a published letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, a distinguished Virginia Whig, who severely touched the pride of the President.

The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United States, proclaiming that all political alliance between the Whigs and President Tyler were at an end.

Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration passed sadly away. No one was satisfied. The land was filled with murmurs and vituperation. Whigs and Democrats alike assailed him. More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends, the Democrats, until at the close of his term, he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate for his successor.

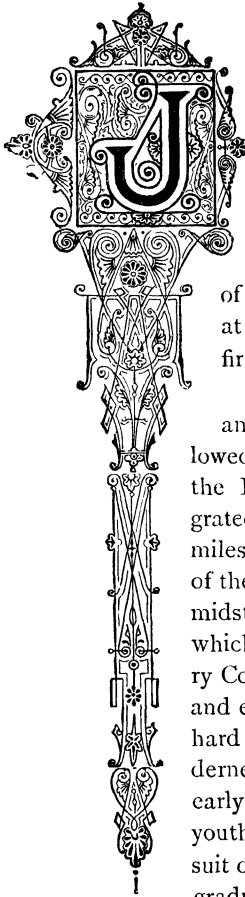
On the 4th of March, 1845, he retired from the harassments of office, to the regret of neither party, and probably to his own unspeakable relief. His first wife, Miss Letitia Christian, died in Washington, in 1842; and in June, 1844, President Tyler was again married, at New York, to Miss Julia Gardiner, a young lady of many personal and intellectual accomplishments.

The remainder of his days Mr. Tyler passed mainly in retirement at his beautiful home,—Sherwood Forest, Charles-city Co., Va. A polished gentleman in his manners, richly furnished with information from books and experience in the world, and possessing brilliant powers of conversation, his family circle was the scene of unusual attractions. With sufficient means for the exercise of a generous hospitality, he might have enjoyed a serene old age with the few friends who gathered around him, were it not for the storms of civil war which his own principles and policy had helped to introduce.

When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy, by force of arms, the Government over which he had once presided, he was taken sick and soon died.



James K. Polk



JAMES K. POLK, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Nov. 2, 1795. His parents were Samuel and Jane (Knox) Polk, the former a son of Col. Thomas Polk, who located at the above place, as one of the first pioneers, in 1735.

In the year 1806, with his wife and children, and soon after followed by most of the members of the Polk family, Samuel Polk emigrated some two or three hundred miles farther west, to the rich valley of the Duck River. Here in the midst of the wilderness, in a region which was subsequently called Maury Co., they reared their log huts, and established their homes. In the hard toil of a new farm in the wilderness, James K. Polk spent the early years of his childhood and youth. His father, adding the pursuit of a surveyor to that of a farmer, gradually increased in wealth until

he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

Very early in life, James developed a taste for reading and expressed the strongest desire to obtain a liberal education. His mother's training had made him methodical in his habits, had taught him punctuality and industry, and had inspired him with lofty principles of morality. His health was frail; and his father, fearing that he might not be able to endure a

sedentary life, got a situation for him behind the counter, hoping to fit him for commercial pursuits.

This was to James a bitter disappointment. He had no taste for these duties, and his daily tasks were irksome in the extreme. He remained in this uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

He graduated in 1818, with the highest honors, being deemed the best scholar of his class, both in mathematics and the classics. He was then twenty-three years of age. Mr. Polk's health was at this time much impaired by the assiduity with which he had prosecuted his studies. After a short season of relaxation he went to Nashville, and entered the office of Felix Grundy, to study law. Here Mr. Polk renewed his acquaintance with Andrew Jackson, who resided on his plantation, the Hermitage, but a few miles from Nashville. They had probably been slightly acquainted before.

Mr. Polk's father was a Jeffersonian Republican, and James K. Polk ever adhered to the same political faith. He was a popular public speaker, and was constantly called upon to address the meetings of his party friends. His skill as a speaker was such that he was popularly called the Napoleon of the stump. He was a man of unblemished morals, genial and

courteous in his bearing, and with that sympathetic nature in the joys and griefs of others which ever gave him troops of friends. In 1823, Mr. Polk was elected to the Legislature of Tennessee. Here he gave his strong influence towards the election of his friend, Mr. Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States.

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1839, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

During five sessions of Congress, Mr. Polk was Speaker of the House. Strong passions were roused, and stormy scenes were witnessed; but Mr. Polk performed his arduous duties to a very general satisfaction, and a unanimous vote of thanks to him was passed by the House as he withdrew on the 4th of March, 1839.

In accordance with Southern usage, Mr. Polk, as a candidate for Governor, canvassed the State. He was elected by a large majority, and on the 14th of October, 1839, took the oath of office at Nashville. In 1841, his term of office expired, and he was again the candidate of the Democratic party, but was defeated.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk was inaugurated President of the United States. The verdict of the country in favor of the annexation of Texas, exerted its influence upon Congress; and the last act of the administration of President Tyler was to affix his signature to a joint resolution of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, approving of the annexation of Texas to the American Union. As Mexico still claimed Texas as one of her provinces, the Mexican minister, Almonte, immediately demanded his passports and left the country, declaring the act of the annexation to be an act hostile to Mexico.

In his first message, President Polk urged that Texas should immediately, by act of Congress, be received into the Union on the same footing with the other States. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor was sent

with an army into Texas to hold the country. He was sent first to Nueces, which the Mexicans said was the western boundary of Texas. Then he was sent nearly two hundred miles further west, to the Rio Grande, where he erected batteries which commanded the Mexican city of Matamoras, which was situated on the western banks.

The anticipated collision soon took place, and war was declared against Mexico by President Polk. The war was pushed forward by Mr. Polk's administration with great vigor. Gen. Taylor, whose army was first called one of "observation," then of "occupation," then of "invasion," was sent forward to Monterey. The feeble Mexicans, in every encounter, were hopelessly and awfully slaughtered. The day of judgement alone can reveal the misery which this war caused. It was by the ingenuity of Mr. Polk's administration that the war was brought on.

"To the victors belong the spoils." Mexico was prostrate before us. Her capital was in our hands. We now consented to peace upon the condition that Mexico should surrender to us, in addition to Texas, all of New Mexico, and all of Upper and Lower California. This new demand embraced, exclusive of Texas, eight hundred thousand square miles. This was an extent of territory equal to nine States of the size of New York. Thus slavery was securing eighteen majestic States to be added to the Union. There were some Americans who thought it all right: there were others who thought it all wrong. In the prosecution of this war, we expended twenty thousand lives and more than a hundred million of dollars. Of this money fifteen millions were paid to Mexico.

On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee. He was then but fifty-four years of age. He had ever been strictly temperate in all his habits, and his health was good. With an ample fortune, a choice library, a cultivated mind, and domestic ties of the dearest nature, it seemed as though long years of tranquility and happiness were before him. But the cholera—that fearful scourge—was then sweeping up the Valley of the Mississippi. This he contracted, and died on the 15th of June, 1849, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, greatly mourned by his countrymen.



Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary

could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

In 1808, his father succeeded in obtaining for him the commission of lieutenant in the United States army; and he joined the troops which were stationed at New Orleans under Gen. Wilkinson. Soon after this he married Miss Margaret Smith, a young lady from one of the first families of Maryland.

Immediately after the declaration of war with England, in 1812, Capt. Taylor (for he had then been promoted to that rank) was put in command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, about fifty miles above Vincennes. This fort had been built in the wilderness by Gen. Harrison, on his march to Tippecanoe. It was one of the first points of attack by the Indians, led by Tecumseh. Its garrison consisted of a broken

company of infantry numbering fifty men, many of whom were sick.

Early in the autumn of 1812, the Indians, stealthily, and in large numbers, moved upon the fort. Their approach was first indicated by the murder of two soldiers just outside of the stockade. Capt. Taylor made every possible preparation to meet the anticipated assault. On the 4th of September, a band of forty painted and plumed savages came to the fort, waving a white flag, and informed Capt. Taylor that in the morning their chief would come to have a talk with him. It was evident that their object was merely to ascertain the state of things at the fort, and Capt. Taylor, well versed in the wiles of the savages, kept them at a distance.

The sun went down; the savages disappeared, the garrison slept upon their arms. One hour before midnight the war whoop burst from a thousand lips in the forest around, followed by the discharge of musketry, and the rush of the foe. Every man, sick and well, sprang to his post. Every man knew that defeat was not merely death, but in the case of capture, death by the most agonizing and prolonged torture. No pen can describe, no imagination can conceive the scenes which ensued. The savages succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses. Until six o'clock in the morning, this awful conflict continued. The savages then, baffled at every point, and gnashing their teeth with rage, retired. Capt. Taylor, for this gallant defence, was promoted to the rank of major by brevet.

Until the close of the war, Major Taylor was placed in such situations that he saw but little more of active service. He was sent far away into the depths of the wilderness, to Fort Crawford, on Fox River, which empties into Green Bay. Here there was but little to be done but to wear away the tedious hours as one best could. There were no books, no society, no in-

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on. Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black-Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rouge. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready."

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unlettered, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

had never been heard of, save in connection with Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista. It is said that Daniel Webster, in his haste remarked, "It is a nomination not fit to be made."

Gen. Taylor was not an eloquent speaker nor a fine writer. His friends took possession of him, and prepared such few communications as it was needful should be presented to the public. The popularity of the successful warrior swept the land. He was triumphantly elected over two opposing candidates,—Gen. Cass and Ex-President Martin Van Buren. Though he selected an excellent cabinet, the good old man found himself in a very uncongenial position, and was, at times, sorely perplexed and harassed. His mental sufferings were very severe, and probably tended to hasten his death. The pro-slavery party was pushing its claims with tireless energy, expeditions were fitting out to capture Cuba; California was pleading for admission to the Union, while slavery stood at the door to bar her out. Gen. Taylor found the political conflicts in Washington to be far more trying to the nerves than battles with Mexicans or Indians.

In the midst of all these troubles, Gen. Taylor, after he had occupied the Presidential chair but little over a year, took cold, and after a brief sickness of but little over five days, died on the 9th of July, 1850. His last words were, "I am not afraid to die. I am ready. I have endeavored to do my duty." He died universally respected and beloved. An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people; and the Nation bitterly lamented his death.

Gen. Scott, who was thoroughly acquainted with Gen. Taylor, gave the following graphic and truthful description of his character:—"With a good store of common sense, Gen. Taylor's mind had not been enlarged and refreshed by reading, or much converse with the world. Rigidity of ideas was the consequence. The frontiers and small military posts had been his home. Hence he was quite ignorant for his rank, and quite bigoted in his ignorance. His simplicity was child-like, and with innumerable prejudices, amusing and incorrigible, well suited to the tender age. Thus, if a man, however respectable, chanced to wear a coat of an unusual color, or his hat a little on one side of his head; or an officer to leave a corner of his handkerchief dangling from an outside pocket,—in any such case, this critic held the offender to be a coxcomb (perhaps something worse), whom he would not, to use his oft repeated phrase, 'touch with a pair of tongs.'

"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."



Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a young man of distinguished promise,

though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small villiage, where some

enterprising man had commenced the collection of a village library. This proved an inestimable blessing to young Fillmore. His evenings were spent in reading. Soon every leisure moment was occupied with books. His thirst for knowledge became insatiate and the selections which he made were continually more elevating and instructive. He read history, biography, oratory, and thus gradually there was kindled in his heart a desire to be something more than a mere worker with his hands; and he was becoming, almost unknown to himself, a well-informed, educated man.

The young clothier had now attained the age of nineteen years, and was of fine personal appearance and of gentlemanly demeanor. It so happened that there was a gentleman in the neighborhood of ample pecuniary means and of benevolence,—Judge Walter Wood,—who was struck with the prepossessing appearance of young Fillmore. He made his acquaintance, and was so much impressed with his ability and attainments that he advised him to abandon his trade and devote himself to the study of the law. The young man replied, that he had no means of his own, no friends to help him and that his previous education had been very imperfect. But Judge Wood had so much confidence in him that he kindly offered to take him into his own office, and to loan him such money as he needed. Most gratefully the generous offer was accepted.

There is in many minds a strange delusion about a collegiate education. A young man is supposed to be liberally educated if he has graduated at some college. But many a boy loiters through university hall; and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

well prepared to prosecute his legal studies as was Millard Fillmore when he graduated at the clothing-mill at the end of four years of manual labor, during which every leisure moment had been devoted to intense mental culture.

In 1823, when twenty-three years of age, he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas. He then went to the village of Aurora, and commenced the practice of law. In this secluded, peaceful region, his practice of course was limited, and there was no opportunity for a sudden rise in fortune or in fame. Here, in the year 1826, he married a lady of great moral worth, and one capable of adorning any station she might be called to fill,—Miss Abigail Powers.

His elevation of character, his untiring industry, his legal acquirements, and his skill as an advocate, gradually attracted attention; and he was invited to enter into partnership under highly advantageous circumstances, with an elder member of the bar in Buffalo. Just before removing to Buffalo, in 1829, he took his seat in the House of Assembly, of the State of New York, as a representative from Erie County. Though he had never taken a very active part in politics, his vote and his sympathies were with the Whig party. The State was then Democratic, and he found himself in a helpless minority in the Legislature, still the testimony comes from all parties, that his courtesy, ability and integrity, won, to a very unusual degree the respect of his associates.

In the autumn of 1832, he was elected to a seat in the United States Congress. He entered that troubled arena in some of the most tumultuous hours of our national history. The great conflict respecting the national bank and the removal of the deposits, was then raging.

His term of two years closed; and he returned to his profession, which he pursued with increasing reputation and success. After a lapse of two years he again became a candidate for Congress; was re-elected, and took his seat in 1837. His past experience as a representative gave him strength and confidence. The first term of service in Congress to any man can be but little more than an introduction. He was now prepared for active duty. All his energies were brought to bear upon the public good. Every measure received his impress.

Mr. Fillmore was now a man of wide repute, and his popularity filled the State, and in the year 1847, he was elected Comptroller of the State.

Mr. Fillmore had attained the age of forty-seven years. His labors at the bar, in the Legislature, in Congress and as Comptroller, had given him very considerable fame. The Whigs were casting about to find suitable candidates for President and Vice-President at the approaching election. Far away, on the waters of the Rio Grande, there was a rough old soldier, who had fought one or two successful battles with the Mexicans, which had caused his name to be proclaimed in trumpet-tones all over the land. But it was necessary to associate with him on the same ticket some man of reputation as a statesman.

Under the influence of these considerations, the names of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore became the rallying-cry of the Whigs, as their candidates for President and Vice-President. The Whig ticket was signally triumphant. On the 4th of March, 1849, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated President, and Millard Fillmore Vice-President, of the United States.

On the 9th of July, 1850, President Taylor, but about one year and four months after his inauguration, was suddenly taken sick and died. By the Constitution, Vice-President Fillmore thus became President. He appointed a very able cabinet, of which the illustrious Daniel Webster was Secretary of State.

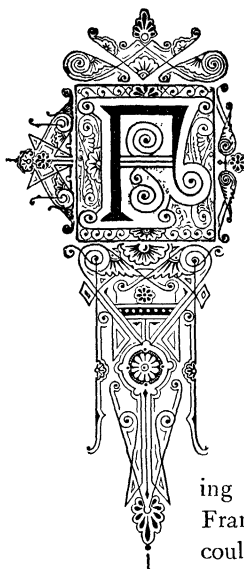
Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States was so rapidly increasing over that of the slave States that it was inevitable that the power of the Government should soon pass into the hands of the free States. The famous compromise measures were adopted under Mr. Fillmore's administration, and the Japan Expedition was sent out. On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore, having served one term, retired.

In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were endeavoring to overthrow our institutions. President Fillmore kept aloof from the conflict, without any cordial words of cheer to the one party or the other. He was thus forgotten by both. He lived to a ripe old age, and died in Buffalo, N. Y., March 8, 1874.





Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian woman. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

Franklin was a very bright and handsome boy, generous, warm-hearted and brave. He won alike the love of old and young. The boys on the play ground loved him. His teachers loved him. The neighbors looked upon him with pride and affection. He was by instinct a gentleman; always speaking kind words, doing kind deeds, with a peculiar unstudied tact which taught him what was agreeable. Without developing any precocity of genius, or any unnatural devotion to books, he was a good scholar; in body, in mind, in affections, a finely-developed boy.

When sixteen years of age, in the year 1820, he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me. He was one of the most popular young men in the college. The purity of his moral character, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanor, his rank as a scholar, and

genial nature, rendered him a universal favorite. There was something very peculiarly winning in his address, and it was evidently not in the slightest degree studied: it was the simple outgushing of his own magnanimous and loving nature.

Upon graduating, in the year 1824, Franklin Pierce commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Woodbury, one of the most distinguished lawyers of the State, and a man of great private worth. The eminent social qualities of the young lawyer, his father's prominence as a public man, and the brilliant political career into which Judge Woodbury was entering, all tended to entice Mr. Pierce into the fascinating yet perilous path of political life. With all the ardor of his nature he espoused the cause of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency. He commenced the practice of law in Hillsborough, and was soon elected to represent the town in the State Legislature. Here he served for four years. The last two years he was chosen speaker of the house by a very large vote.

In 1833, at the age of twenty-nine, he was elected a member of Congress. Without taking an active part in debates, he was faithful and laborious in duty, and ever rising in the estimation of those with whom he was associated.

In 1837, being then but thirty-three years of age, he was elected to the Senate of the United States; taking his seat just as Mr. Van Buren commenced his administration. He was the youngest member in the Senate. In the year 1834, he married Miss Jane Means Appleton, a lady of rare beauty and accomplishments, and one admirably fitted to adorn every station with which her husband was honored. Of the

three sons who were born to them, all now sleep with their parents in the grave.

In the year 1838, Mr. Pierce, with growing fame and increasing business as a lawyer, took up his residence in Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. President Polk, upon his accession to office, appointed Mr. Pierce attorney-general of the United States; but the offer was declined, in consequence of numerous professional engagements at home, and the precarious state of Mrs. Pierce's health. He also, about the same time declined the nomination for governor by the Democratic party. The war with Mexico called Mr. Pierce in the army. Receiving the appointment of brigadier-general, he embarked, with a portion of his troops, at Newport, R. I., on the 27th of May, 1847. He took an important part in this war, proving himself a brave and true soldier.

When Gen. Pierce reached his home in his native State, he was received enthusiastically by the advocates of the Mexican war, and coldly by his opponents. He resumed the practice of his profession, very frequently taking an active part in political questions, giving his cordial support to the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The compromise measures met cordially with his approval; and he strenuously advocated the enforcement of the infamous fugitive-slave law, which so shocked the religious sensibilities of the North. He thus became distinguished as a "Northern man with Southern principles." The strong partisans of slavery in the South consequently regarded him as a man whom they could safely trust in office to carry out their plans.

On the 12th of June, 1852, the Democratic convention met in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. For four days they continued in session, and in thirty-five ballotings no one had obtained a two-thirds vote. Not a vote thus far had been thrown for Gen. Pierce. Then the Virginia delegation brought forward his name. There were fourteen more ballotings, during which Gen. Pierce constantly gained strength, until, at the forty-ninth ballot, he received two hundred and eighty-two votes, and all other candidates eleven. Gen. Winfield Scott was the Whig candidate. Gen. Pierce was chosen with great unanimity. Only four States—Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Tennessee—cast their electoral votes against him. Gen. Franklin Pierce was therefore inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1853.

His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and half free." President Pierce, during the whole of his administration, did every thing he could to conciliate the South; but it was all in vain. The conflict every year grew more violent, and threats of the dissolution of the Union were borne to the North on every Southern breeze.

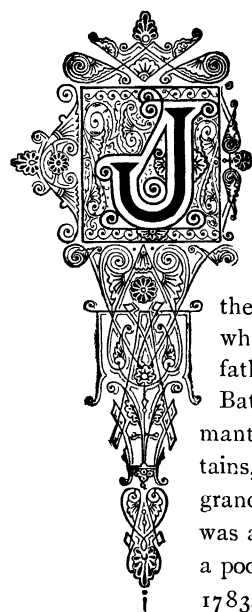
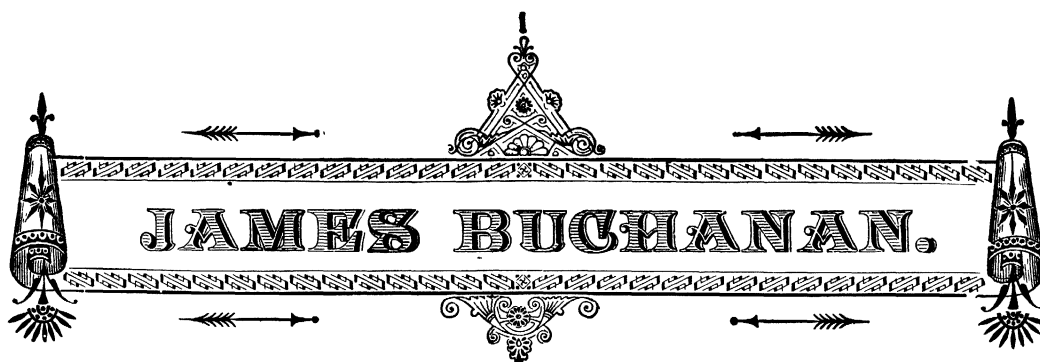
Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President Pierce were forgotten in deep reprehension of his administrative acts. The slaveholders of the South, also, unmindful of the fidelity with which he had advocated those measures of Government which they approved, and perhaps, also, feeling that he had rendered himself so unpopular as no longer to be able acceptably to serve them, ungratefully dropped him, and nominated James Buchanan to succeed him.

On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The hour of dreadful gloom soon came, and he was left alone in the world, without wife or child.

When the terrible Rebellion burst forth, which divided our country into two parties, and two only, Mr. Pierce remained steadfast in the principles which he had always cherished, and gave his sympathies to that pro-slavery party with which he had ever been allied. He declined to do anything, either by voice or pen, to strengthen the hand of the National Government. He continued to reside in Concord until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1869. He was one of the most genial and social of men, an honored communicant of the Episcopal Church, and one of the kindest of neighbors. Generous to a fault, he contributed liberally for the alleviation of suffering and want, and many of his townspeople were often gladdened by his material bounty.

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JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghenies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making retri-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive-slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his threescore years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered. He could not, with his long-avowed prin-

ciples, consistently oppose the State-rights party in their assumptions. As President of the United States, bound by his oath faithfully to administer the laws, he could not, without perjury of the grossest kind, unite with those endeavoring to overthrow the republic. He therefore did nothing.

The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared, that if he were elected, and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands, they would secede from the Union, taking with them, as they retired, the National Capitol at Washington, and the lion's share of the territory of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan's sympathy with the pro-slavery party was such, that he had been willing to offer them far more than they had ventured to claim. All the South had professed to ask of the North was non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. Mr. Buchanan had been ready to offer them the active co-operation of the Government to defend and extend the institution.

As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce its laws in any State which had withdrawn, or which was attempting to withdraw from the Union. This was not the doctrine of Andrew Jackson, when, with his hand upon his sword hilt, he exclaimed, "The Union must and shall be preserved!"

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumpter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

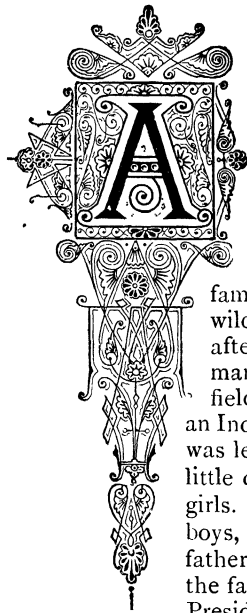
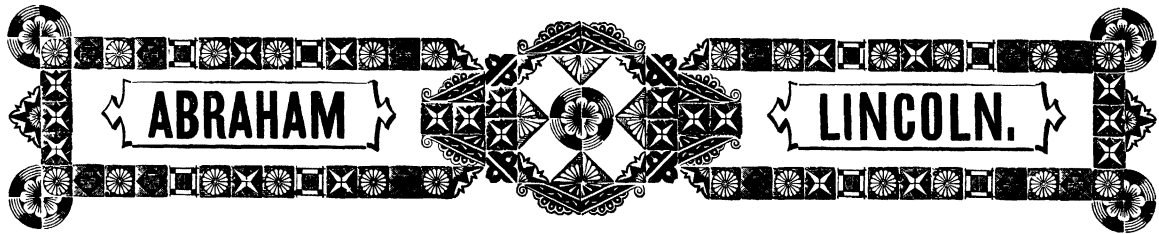
The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.



Your friend & ever

A. Lincoln



ABRAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States

whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his

cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830, and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

Young Abraham worked for a time as a hired laborer among the farmers. Then he went to Springfield, where he was employed in building a large flat-boat. In this he took a herd of swine, floated them down the Sangamon to the Illinois, and thence by the Mississippi to New Orleans. Whatever Abraham Lincoln undertook, he performed so faithfully as to give great satisfaction to his employers. In this adven-

ture his employers were so well pleased, that upon his return they placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem, His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected. Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1836 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

In 1854 the great discussion began between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, on the slavery question. In the organization of the Republican party in Illinois, in 1856, he took an active part, and at once became one of the leaders in that party. Mr. Lincoln's speeches in opposition to Senator Douglas in the contest in 1858 for a seat in the Senate, form a most notable part of his history. The issue was on the slavery question, and he took the broad ground of the Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. Mr. Lincoln was defeated in this contest, but won a far higher prize.

The great Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of June, 1860. The delegates and strangers who crowded the city amounted to twenty-five thousand. An immense building called "The Wigwag," was reared to accommodate the Convention. There were eleven candidates for whom votes were thrown. William H. Seward, a man whose fame as a statesman had long filled the land, was the most prominent. It was generally supposed he would be the nominee. Abraham Lincoln, however, received the nomination on the third ballot. Little did he then dream of the weary years of toil and care, and the bloody death, to which that nomination doomed him: and as little did he dream that he was to render services to his country, which would fix upon him the eyes of the whole civilized world, and which would give him a place in the affections of his countrymen, second only, if second, to that of Washington.

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 203 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good

and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern States had already seceded, and several attempts at assassination were afterwards brought to light. A gang in Baltimore had arranged, upon his arrival to "get up a row," and in the confusion to make sure of his death with revolvers and hand-grenades. A detective unravelled the plot. A secret and special train was provided to take him from Harrisburg, through Baltimore, at an unexpected hour of the night. The train started at half-past ten; and to prevent any possible communication on the part of the Secessionists with their Confederate gang in Baltimore, as soon as the train had started the telegraph-wires were cut. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington in safety and was inaugurated, although great anxiety was felt by all loyal people.

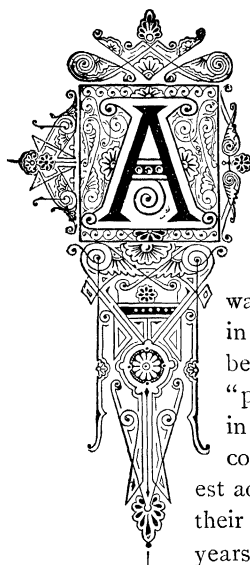
In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, he learned early to seek Divine wisdom and guidance in determining his plans, and Divine comfort in all his trials, both personal and national. Contrary to his own estimate of himself, Mr. Lincoln was one of the most courageous of men. He went directly into the rebel capital just as the retreating foe was leaving, with no guard but a few sailors. From the time he had left Springfield, in 1861, however, plans had been made for his assassination, and he at last fell a victim to one of them. April 14, 1865, he, with Gen. Grant, was urgently invited to attend Ford's Theater. It was announced that they would be present. Gen. Grant, however, left the city. President Lincoln, feeling, with his characteristic kindness of heart, that it would be a disappointment if he should fail them, very reluctantly consented to go. While listening to the play an actor by the name of John Wilkes Booth entered the box where the President and family were seated, and fired a bullet into his brains. He died the next morning at seven o'clock.

Never before, in the history of the world was a nation plunged into such deep grief by the death of its ruler. Strong men met in the streets and wept in speechless anguish. It is not too much to say that a nation was in tears. His was a life which will fitly become a model. His name as the savior of his country will live with that of Washington's, its father; his countrymen being unable to decide which is the greater.



Andrew Johnson



ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

He then, having never attended a school one day, and being unable either to read or write, was apprenticed to a tailor in his native town. A gentleman was in the habit of going to the tailor's shop occasionally, and reading to the boys at work there. He often read from the speeches of distinguished British statesmen. Andrew, who was endowed with a mind of more than ordinary native ability, became much interested in these speeches; his ambition was roused, and he was inspired with a strong desire to learn to read.

He accordingly applied himself to the alphabet, and with the assistance of some of his fellow-workmen, learned his letters. He then called upon the gentleman to borrow the book of speeches. The owner,

pleased with his zeal, not only gave him the book, but assisted him in learning to combine the letters into words. Under such difficulties he pressed onward laboriously, spending usually ten or twelve hours at work in the shop, and then robbing himself of rest and recreation to devote such time as he could to reading.

He went to Tennessee in 1826, and located at Greenville, where he married a young lady who possessed some education. Under her instructions he learned to write and cipher. He became prominent in the village debating society, and a favorite with the students of Greenville College. In 1828, he organized a working man's party, which elected him alderman, and in 1830 elected him mayor, which position he held three years.

He now began to take a lively interest in political affairs; identifying himself with the working-classes, to which he belonged. In 1835, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Tennessee. He was then just twenty-seven years of age. He became a very active member of the legislature. He gave his adhesion to the Democratic party, and in 1840 "stumped the State," advocating Martin Van Buren's claims to the Presidency, in opposition to those of Gen. Harrison. In this campaign he acquired much readiness as a speaker, and extended and increased his reputation.

In 1841, he was elected State Senator; in 1843, he was elected a member of Congress, and by successive elections, held that important post for ten years. In 1853, he was elected Governor of Tennessee, and was re-elected in 1855. In all these responsible positions, he discharged his duties with distinguished abi-

ity, and proved himself the warm friend of the working classes. In 1857, Mr. Johnson was elected United States Senator.

Years before, in 1845, he had warmly advocated the annexation of Texas, stating however, as his reason, that he thought this annexation would probably prove "to be the gateway out of which the sable sons of Africa are to pass from bondage to freedom, and become merged in a population congenial to themselves." In 1850, he also supported the compromise measures, the two essential features of which were, that the white people of the Territories should be permitted to decide for themselves whether they would enslave the colored people or not, and that the free States of the North should return to the South persons who attempted to escape from slavery.

Mr. Johnson was never ashamed of his lowly origin: on the contrary, he often took pride in avowing that he owed his distinction to his own exertions. "Sir," said he on the floor of the Senate, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic; neither do I forget that Adam was a tailor and sewed fig-leaves, and that our Saviour was the son of a carpenter."

In the Charleston-Baltimore convention of 1860, he was the choice of the Tennessee Democrats for the Presidency. In 1861, when the purpose of the Southern Democracy became apparent, he took a decided stand in favor of the Union, and held that "slavery must be held subordinate to the Union at whatever cost." He returned to Tennessee, and repeatedly imperiled his own life to protect the Unionists of Tennessee. Tennessee having seceded from the Union, President Lincoln, on March 4th, 1862, appointed him Military Governor of the State, and he established the most stringent military rule. His numerous proclamations attracted wide attention. In 1864, he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and upon the death of Mr. Lincoln, April 15, 1865, became President. In a speech two days later he said, "The American people must be taught, if they do not already feel, that treason is a crime and must be punished; that the Government will not always bear with its enemies; that it is strong not only to protect, but to punish. * * * The people must understand that it (treason) is the blackest of crimes, and will surely be punished." Yet his whole administration, the history of which is so well known, was in utter inconsistency with, and the most violent

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

In his loose policy of reconstruction and general amnesty, he was opposed by Congress; and he characterized Congress as a new rebellion, and lawlessly defied it, in everything possible, to the utmost. In the beginning of 1868, on account of "high crimes and misdemeanors," the principal of which was the removal of Secretary Stanton, in violation of the Tenure of Office Act, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and the trial began March 23.

It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to his condemnation, he was pronounced acquitted, notwithstanding the great majority against him. The change of one vote from the *not guilty* side would have sustained the impeachment.

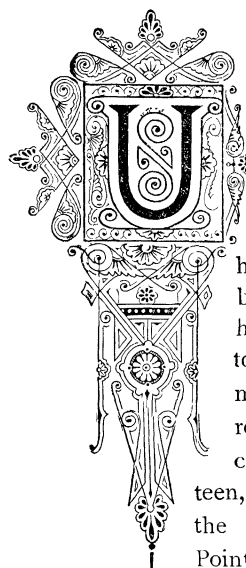
The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the name of Gen. Grant. Andrew Johnson was forgotten. The bullet of the assassin introduced him to the President's chair. Notwithstanding this, never was there presented to a man a better opportunity to immortalize his name, and to win the gratitude of a nation. He failed utterly. He retired to his home in Greenville, Tenn., taking no very active part in politics until 1875. On Jan. 26, after an exciting struggle, he was chosen by the Legislature of Tennessee, United States Senator in the forty-fourth Congress, and took his seat in that body, at the special session convened by President Grant, on the 5th of March. On the 27th of July, 1875, the ex-President made a visit to his daughter's home, near Carter Station, Tenn. When he started on his journey, he was apparently in his usual vigorous health, but on reaching the residence of his child the following day, was stricken with paralysis, rendering him unconscious. He rallied occasionally, but finally passed away at 2 A. M., July 31, aged sixty-seven years. His funeral was attended at Greenville, on the 3d of August, with every demonstration of respect.



A. S. Grant



ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a

solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chalultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—“Uncle Sam has educated me for the army; though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too.”

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15th of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office.

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

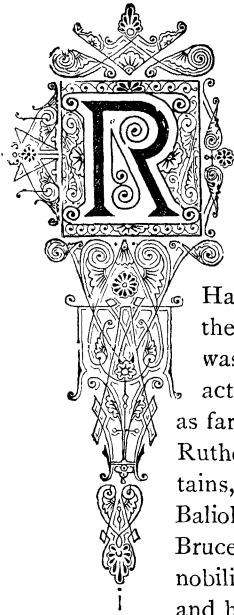
Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a re-nomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.





Sincerely
R. B. Hayes



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

born. He was married, in September, 1813, to Sophia Birchard, of Wilmington, Vt., whose ancestors emigrated thither from Connecticut, they having been among the wealthiest and best families of Norwich. Her ancestry on the male side are traced back to 1635, to John Birchard, one of the principal founders of Norwich. Both of her grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

The father of President Hayes was an industrious, frugal and opened-hearted man. He was of a mechanical turn, and could mend a plow, knit a stocking, or do almost anything else that he choose to undertake. He was a member of the Church, active in all the benevolent enterprises of the town, and conducted his business on Christian principles. After the close of the war of 1812, for reasons inexplicable to his neighbors, he resolved to emigrate to Ohio.

The journey from Vermont to Ohio in that day, when there were no canals, steamers, nor railways, was a very serious affair. A tour of inspection was first made, occupying four months. Mr. Hayes determined to move to Delaware, where the family arrived in 1817. He died July 22, 1822, a victim of malarial fever, less than three months before the birth of the son, of whom we now write. Mrs. Hayes, in her sore bereavement, found the support she so much needed in her brother Sardis, who had been a member of the household from the day of its departure from Vermont, and in an orphan girl whom she had adopted some time before as an act of charity.

Mrs. Hayes at this period was very weak, and the

subject of this sketch was so feeble at birth that he was not expected to live beyond a month or two at most. As the months went by he grew weaker and weaker, so that the neighbors were in the habit of inquiring from time to time "if Mrs. Hayes' baby died last night." On one occasion a neighbor, who was on familiar terms with the family, after alluding to the boy's big head, and the mother's assiduous care of him, said in a bantering way, "That's right! Stick to him. You have got him along so far, and I shouldn't wonder if he would really come to something yet."

"You need not laugh," said Mrs. Hayes. "You wait and see. You can't tell but I shall make him President of the United States yet." The boy lived, in spite of the universal predictions of his speedy death; and when, in 1825, his older brother was drowned, he became, if possible, still dearer to his mother.

The boy was seven years old before he went to school. His education, however, was not neglected. He probably learned as much from his mother and sister as he would have done at school. His sports were almost wholly within doors, his playmates being his sister and her associates. These circumstances tended, no doubt, to foster that gentleness of disposition, and that delicate consideration for the feelings of others, which are marked traits of his character.

His uncle Sardis Birchard took the deepest interest in his education; and as the boy's health had improved, and he was making good progress in his studies, he proposed to send him to college. His preparation commenced with a tutor at home; but he was afterwards sent for one year to a professor in the Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn. He entered Kenyon College in 1838, at the age of sixteen, and was graduated at the head of his class in 1842.

Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law in the office of Thomas Sparrow, Esq., in Columbus. Finding his opportunities for study in Columbus somewhat limited, he determined to enter the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., where he remained two years.

In 1845, after graduating at the Law School, he was admitted to the bar at Marietta, Ohio, and shortly afterward went into practice as an attorney-at-law with Ralph P. Buckland, of Fremont. Here he remained three years, acquiring but a limited practice, and apparently unambitious of distinction in his profession.

In 1849 he moved to Cincinnati, where his ambition found a new stimulus. For several years, however, his progress was slow. Two events, occurring at this period, had a powerful influence upon his subsequent life. One of these was his marriage with Miss Lucy Ware Webb, daughter of Dr. James Webb, of Chillicothe; the other was his introduction to the Cincinnati Literary Club, a body embracing among its members such men as Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase,

Gen. John Pope, Gov. Edward F. Noyes, and many others hardly less distinguished in after life. The marriage was a fortunate one in every respect, as everybody knows. Not one of all the wives of our Presidents was more universally admired, revered and beloved than was Mrs. Hayes, and no one did more than she to reflect honor upon American womanhood. The Literary Club brought Mr. Hayes into constant association with young men of high character and noble aims, and lured him to display the qualities so long hidden by his bashfulness and modesty.

In 1856 he was nominated to the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; but he declined to accept the nomination. Two years later, the office of city solicitor becoming vacant, the City Council elected him for the unexpired term.

In 1861, when the Rebellion broke out, he was at the zenith of his professional life. His rank at the bar was among the the first. But the news of the attack on Fort Sumpter found him eager to take to arms for the defense of his country.

His military record was bright and illustrious. In October, 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel, and in August, 1862, promoted Colonel of the 79th Ohio regiment, but he refused to leave his old comrades and go among strangers. Subsequently, however, he was made Colonel of his old regiment. At the battle of South Mountain he received a wound, and while faint and bleeding displayed courage and fortitude that won admiration from all.

Col. Hayes was detached from his regiment, after his recovery, to act as Brigadier-General, and placed in command of the celebrated Kanawha division, and for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, he was promoted Brigadier-General. He was also brevetted Major-General, "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaigns of 1864, in West Virginia." In the course of his arduous services, four horses were shot from under him, and he was wounded four times.

In 1864, Gen. Hayes was elected to Congress, from the Second Ohio District, which had long been Democratic. He was not present during the campaign, and after his election was importuned to resign his commission in the army; but he finally declared, "I shall never come to Washington until I can come by the way of Richmond." He was re-elected in 1866.

In 1867, Gen Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.

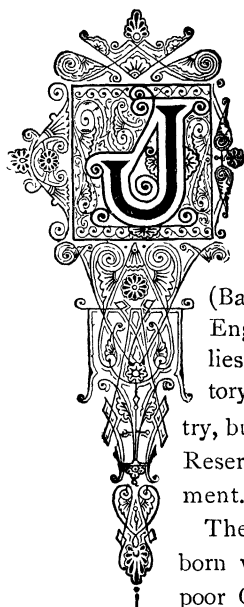




J. A. Garfield



JAMES A. GARFIELD.



JAMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O. His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles to keep the little family to-

gether. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Disciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion:

"President Garfield was more than a man of strong moral and religious convictions. His whole history, from boyhood to the last, shows that duty to man and to God, and devotion to Christ and life and faith and spiritual commission were controlling springs of his being, and to a more than usual degree. In my judgment there is no more interesting feature of his character than his loyal allegiance to the body of Christians in which he was trained, and the fervent sympathy which he ever showed in their Christian communion. Not many of the few 'wise and mighty and noble who are called' show a similar loyalty to the less stately and cultured Christian communions in which they have been reared. Too often it is true that as they step upward in social and political significance they step upward from one degree to another in some of the many types of fashionable Christianity. President Garfield adhered to the church of his mother, the church in which he was trained, and in which he served as a pillar and an evangelist, and yet with the largest and most unsectarian charity for all 'who love our Lord in sincerity.'"

Mr. Garfield was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Rudolph, Nov. 11, 1858, who proved herself worthy as the wife of one whom all the world loved and mourned. To them were born seven children, five of whom are still living, four boys and one girl.

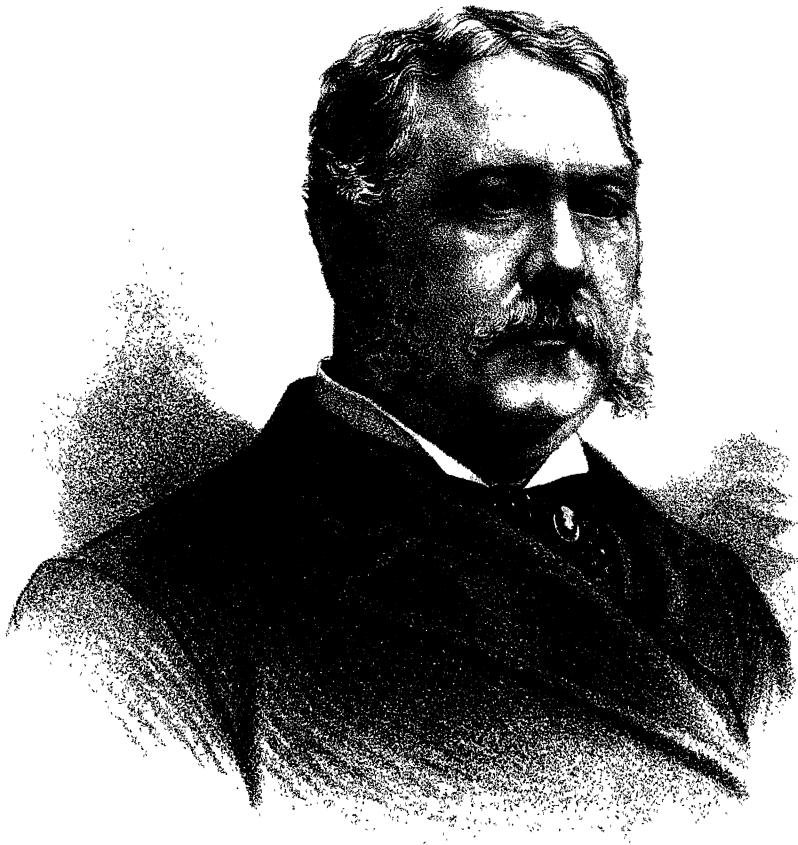
Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland, and in 1861 was admitted to the bar. The great Rebellion broke out in the early part of this year, and Mr. Garfield at once resolved to fight as he had talked, and enlisted to defend the old flag. He received his commission as Lieut.-Colonel of the Forty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 14, 1861. He was immediately put into active service, and before he had ever seen a gun fired in action, was placed in command of four regiments of infantry and eight companies of cavalry, charged with the work of driving out of his native State the officer (Humphrey Marshall) reputed to be the ablest of those, not educated to war whom Kentucky had given to the Rebellion. This work was bravely and speedily accomplished, although against great odds. President Lincoln, on his success commissioned him Brigadier-General, Jan. 10, 1862; and as "he had been the youngest man in the Ohio Senate two years before, so now he was the youngest General in the army." He was with Gen. Buell's army at Shiloh, in its operations around Corinth and its march through Alabama. He was then detailed as a member of the General Court-Martial for the trial of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. He was then ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, and was assigned to the "Chief of Staff."

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: "Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunal of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield."

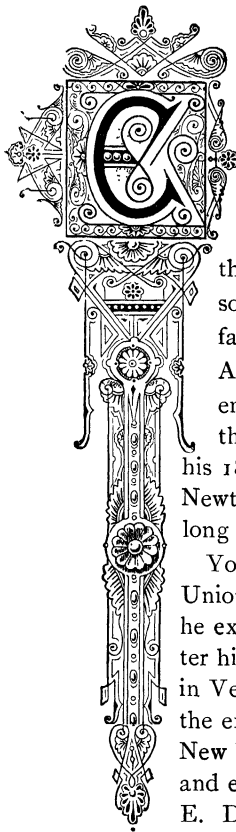
Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was "the shot that was heard round the world." Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. For eighty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.



C. A. Astor



CHESTER A. ARTHUR.



CHESTER A. ARTHUR, twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Vermont, on the fifth of October, 1830, and is the oldest of a family of two sons and five daughters. His father was the Rev. Dr. William Arthur, a Baptist clergyman, who emigrated to this country from the county Antrim, Ireland, in his 18th year, and died in 1875, in Newtonville, near Albany, after a long and successful ministry.

Young Arthur was educated at Union College, Schenectady, where he excelled in all his studies. After his graduation he taught school in Vermont for two years, and at the expiration of that time came to New York, with \$500 in his pocket, and entered the office of ex-Judge E. D. Culver as student. After being admitted to the bar he formed a partnership with his intimate friend and room-mate, Henry D. Gardiner, with the intention of practicing in the West, and for three months they roamed about in the Western States in search of an eligible site, but in the end returned to New York, where they hung out their shingle, and entered upon a successful career almost from the start. General Arthur soon afterward married the daughter of Lieutenant

Herndon, of the United States Navy, who was lost at sea. Congress voted a gold medal to his widow in recognition of the bravery he displayed on that occasion. Mrs. Arthur died shortly before Mr. Arthur's nomination to the Vice Presidency, leaving two children.

Gen. Arthur obtained considerable legal celebrity in his first great case, the famous Lemmon suit, brought to recover possession of eight slaves who had been declared free by Judge Paine, of the Superior Court of New York City. It was in 1852 that Jonathan Lemmon, of Virginia, went to New York with his slaves, intending to ship them to Texas, when they were discovered and freed. The Judge decided that they could not be held by the owner under the Fugitive Slave Law. A howl of rage went up from the South, and the Virginia Legislature authorized the Attorney General of that State to assist in an appeal. Wm. M. Evarts and Chester A. Arthur were employed to represent the People, and they won their case, which then went to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charles O'Connor here espoused the cause of the slave-holders, but he too was beaten by Messrs Evarts and Arthur, and a long step was taken toward the emancipation of the black race.

Another great service was rendered by General Arthur in the same cause in 1856. Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, was put off a Fourth Avenue car with violence after she had paid her fare. General Arthur sued on her behalf, and secured a verdict of \$500 damages. The next day the company issued an order to admit colored persons to ride on their cars, and the other car companies quickly

followed their example. Before that the Sixth Avenue Company ran a few special cars for colored persons and the other lines refused to let them ride at all.

General Arthur was a delegate to the Convention at Saratoga that founded the Republican party. Previous to the war he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade of the State of New York, and Governor Morgan, of that State, appointed him Engineer-in-Chief of his staff. In 1861, he was made Inspector General, and soon afterward became Quartermaster-General. In each of these offices he rendered great service to the Government during the war. At the end of Governor Morgan's term he resumed the practice of the law, forming a partnership with Mr. Ransom, and then Mr. Phelps, the District Attorney of New York, was added to the firm. The legal practice of this well-known firm was very large and lucrative, each of the gentlemen composing it were able lawyers, and possessed a splendid local reputation, if not indeed one of national extent.

He always took a leading part in State and city politics. He was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Grant, Nov. 21 1872, to succeed Thomas Murphy, and held the office until July, 20, 1878, when he was succeeded by Collector Merritt.

Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican party, all able men, and each stood firm and fought vigorously and with signal tenacity for their respective candidates that were before the convention for the nomination. Finally Gen. Garfield received the nomination for President and Gen. Arthur for Vice-President. The campaign which followed was one of the most animated known in the history of our country. Gen. Hancock, the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, was a popular man, and his party made a valiant fight for his election.

Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of anxious suspense, when the hearts of all civilized na-

tions were throbbing in unison, longing for the recovery of the noble, the good President. The remarkable patience that he manifested during those hours and weeks, and even months, of the most terrible suffering man has often been called upon to endure, was seemingly more than human. It was certainly God-like. During all this period of deepest anxiety Mr. Arthur's every move was watched, and be it said to his credit that his every action displayed only an earnest desire that the suffering Garfield might recover, to serve the remainder of the term he had so auspiciously begun. Not a selfish feeling was manifested in deed or look of this man, even though the most honored position in the world was at any moment likely to fall to him.

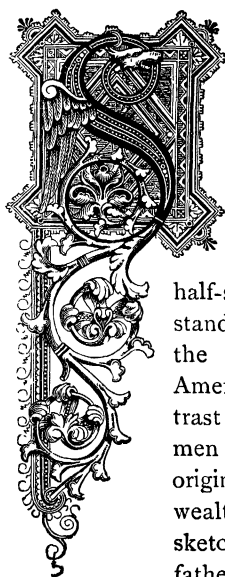
At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York, Sept. 20, 1881. The position was an embarrassing one to him, made doubly so from the facts that all eyes were on him, anxious to know what he would do, what policy he would pursue, and who he would select as advisers. The duties of the office had been greatly neglected during the President's long illness, and many important measures were to be immediately decided by him; and still farther to embarrass him he did not fail to realize under what circumstances he became President, and knew the feelings of many on this point. Under these trying circumstances President Arthur took the reins of the Government in his own hands; and, as embarrassing as were the condition of affairs, he happily surprised the nation, acting so wisely that but few criticised his administration. He served the nation well and faithfully, until the close of his administration, March 4, 1885, and was a popular candidate before his party for a second term. His name was ably presented before the convention at Chicago, and was received with great favor, and doubtless but for the personal popularity of one of the opposing candidates, he would have been selected as the standard-bearer of his party for another campaign. He retired to private life carrying with him the best wishes of the American people, whom he had served in a manner satisfactory to them and with credit to himself.



Grover Cleveland



S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-

half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian min-

ister, with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

At the last mentioned place young Grover commenced going to school in the "good, old-fashioned way," and presumably distinguished himself after the manner of all village boys, in doing the things he ought not to do. Such is the distinguishing trait of all geniuses and independent thinkers. When he arrived at the age of 14 years, he had outgrown the capacity of the village school and expressed a most

emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid \$50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive \$100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

But instead of remaining with this firm in Fayetteville, he went with the family in their removal to Clinton, where he had an opportunity of attending a high school. Here he industriously pursued his studies until the family removed with him to a point on Black River known as the "Holland Patent," a village of 500 or 600 people, 15 miles north of Utica, N. Y. At this place his father died, after preaching but three Sundays. This event broke up the family, and Grover set out for New York City to accept, at a small salary, the position of "under-teacher" in an asylum for the blind. He taught faithfully for two years, and although he obtained a good reputation in this capacity, he concluded that teaching was not his

calling for life, and, reversing the traditional order, he left the city to seek his fortune, instead of going to a city. He first thought of Cleveland, Ohio, as there was some charm in that name for him; but before proceeding to that place he went to Buffalo to ask the advice of his uncle, Lewis F. Allan, a noted stock-breeder of that place. The latter did not speak enthusiastically. "What is it you want to do, my boy?" he asked. "Well, sir, I want to study law," was the reply. "Good gracious!" remarked the old gentleman; "do you, indeed? What ever put that into your head? How much money have you got?" "Well, sir, to tell the truth, I haven't got any."

After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of \$3 or \$4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms

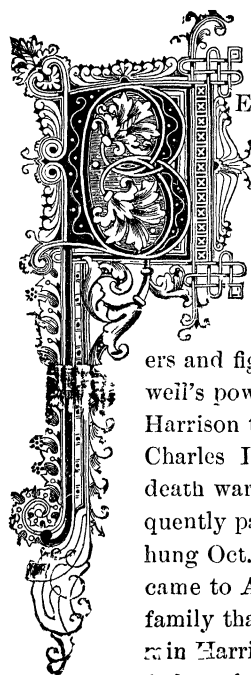
in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-trying Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885. For his Cabinet officers he selected the following gentlemen: For Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Secretary of the Treasury, Daniel Manning, of New York; Secretary of War, William G. Endicott, of Massachusetts; Secretary of the Navy, William C. Whitney, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi; Postmaster-General, William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin; Attorney-General, A. H. Garland, of Arkansas.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.





Benj. Harrison



ENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the descendant of one of the historical families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to participate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oct. 13, 1660. His descendants came to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and

after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774-5-6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen. William Henry Harrison, the son of the

distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful career as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean record as Governor of the North-western Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1833. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General. Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

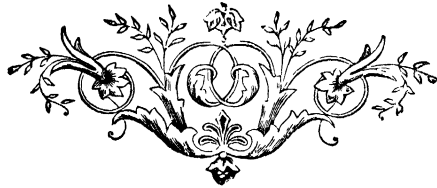
During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined a re-election as Reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyers and strongest debaters in

that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti-slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade desired to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark. He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought, precise in logic, terse in statement, yet without faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day.



GOVERNORS.



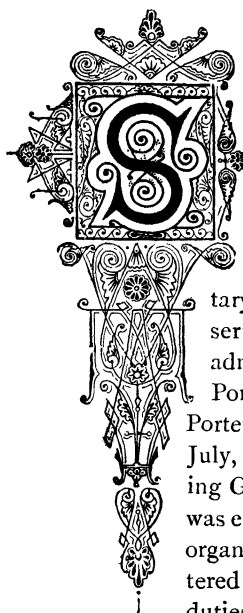




Stevens J Mason



STEPHEN T. MASON.



STEPHEN T. MASON, the first Governor of Michigan, was a son of Gen. John T. Mason, of Kentucky, but was born in Virginia, in 1812. At the age of 19 he was appointed Secretary of Michigan Territory, and served in that capacity during the administration of Gov. George B. Porter. Upon the death of Gov. Porter, which occurred on the 6th of July, 1834, Mr. Mason became Acting Governor. In October, 1835, he was elected Governor under the State organization, and immediately entered upon the performance of the duties of the office, although the

State was not yet admitted into the Union. After the State was admitted into the Union, Governor Mason was re-elected to the position, and served with credit to himself and to the advantage of the State. He died Jan. 4, 1843. The principal event during Governor Mason's official career, was that arising from the disputed southern boundary of the State.

Michigan claimed for her southern boundary a line running east across the peninsula from the extreme southern point of Lake Michigan, extending through Lake Erie, to the Pennsylvania line. This she claimed as a vested right—a right accruing to her by compact. This compact was the ordinance of 1787, the parties to which were the original 13 States, and the territory northwest of the Ohio; and, by the succession of parties under statutory amendments to the ordinance and laws of Congress—the United States on the one part, and each Territory northwest of the Ohio, as far as affected by their provisions, on the

other. Michigan, therefore, claimed it under the prior grant, or assignation of boundary.

Ohio, on the other hand, claimed that the ordinance had been superseded by the Constitution of the United States, and that Congress had a right to regulate the boundary. It was also claimed that the Constitution of the State of Ohio having described a different line, and Congress having admitted the State under that Constitution, without mentioning the subject of the line in dispute, Congress had thereby given its consent to the line as laid down by the Constitution of Ohio. This claim was urged by Ohio at some periods of the controversy, but at others she appeared to regard the question unsettled, by the fact that she insisted upon Congress taking action in regard to the boundary. Accordingly, we find that, in 1812, Congress authorized the Surveyor-General to survey a line, agreeably to the act, to enable the people of Ohio to form a Constitution and State government. Owing to Indian hostilities, however, the line was not run till 1818. In 1820, the question in dispute underwent a rigid examination by the Committee on Public Lands. The claim of Ohio was strenuously urged by her delegation, and as ably opposed by Mr. Woodbridge, the then delegate from Michigan. The result was that the committee decided unanimously in favor of Michigan; but, in the hurry of business, no action was taken by Congress, and the question remained open till Michigan organized her State government.

The Territory in dispute is about five miles in width at the west end, and about eight miles in width at the east end, and extends along the whole northern line of Ohio, west of Lake Erie. The line claimed by Michigan was known as the "Fulton line," and that claimed by Ohio was known as the "Harris line,"

from the names of the surveyors. The territory was valuable for its rich agricultural lands; but the chief value consisted in the fact that the harbor on the Maumee River, where now stands the flourishing city of Toledo, was included within its limits. The town originally bore the name of Swan Creek, afterwards Port Lawrence, then Vestula, and then Toledo.

In February, 1835, the Legislature of Ohio passed an act extending the jurisdiction of the State over the territory in question; erected townships and directed them to hold elections in April following. It also directed Governor Lucas to appoint three commissioners to survey and re-mark the Harris line; and named the first of April as the day to commence the survey. Acting Governor Mason, however, anticipated this action on the part of the Ohio Legislature, sent a special message to the Legislative Council, apprising it of Governor Lucas' message, and advised immediate action by that body to anticipate and counteract the proceedings of Ohio. Accordingly, on the 12th of February, the council passed an act making it a criminal offence, punishable by a heavy fine, or imprisonment, for any one to attempt to exercise any official functions, or accept any office within the jurisdiction of Michigan, under or by virtue of any authority not derived from the Territory, or the United States. On the 9th of March, Governor Mason wrote General Brown, then in command of the Michigan militia, directing him to hold himself in readiness to meet the enemy in the field in case any attempt was made on the part of Ohio to carry out the provisions of that act of the Legislature. On the 31st of March, Governor Lucas, with his commissioners, arrived at Perrysburgh, on their way to commence re-surveying the Harris line. He was accompanied by General Bell and staff, of the Ohio Militia, who proceeded to muster a volunteer force of about 600 men. This was soon accomplished, and the force fully armed and equipped. The force then went into camp at Fort Miami, to await the Governor's orders.

In the meantime, Governor Mason, with General Brown and staff, had raised a force 800 to 1200 strong, and were in possession of Toledo. General Brown's Staff consisted of Captain Henry Smith, of Monroe, Inspector; Major J. J. Ullman, of Constantine, Quartermaster; William E. Broadman, of Detroit, and Alpheus Felch, of Monroe, Aids-de-camp. When Governor Lucas observed the determined bearing of the Michigan braves, and took note

of their number, he found it convenient to content himself for a time with "watching over the border." Several days were passed in this exhilarating employment, and just as Governor Lucas had made up his mind to do something rash, two commissioners arrived from Washington on a mission of peace. They remonstrated with Gov. Lucas, and reminded him of the consequences to himself and his State if he persisted in his attempt to gain possession of the disputed territory by force. After several conferences with both governors, the commissioners submitted propositions for their consideration.

Governor Lucas at once accepted the propositions, and disbanded his forces. Governor Mason, on the other hand, refused to accede to the arrangement, and declined to compromise the rights of his people by a surrender of possession and jurisdiction. When Governor Lucas disbanded his forces, however, Governor Mason partially followed suit, but still held himself in readiness to meet any emergency that might arise.

Governor Lucas now supposed that his way was clear, and that he could re-mark the Harris line without being molested, and ordered the commissioners to proceed with their work.

In the meantime, Governor Mason kept a watchful eye upon the proceedings. General Brown sent scouts through the woods to watch their movements, and report when operations were commenced. When the surveying party got within the county of Lenawee, the under-sheriff of that county, armed with a warrant, and accompanied by a posse, suddenly made his appearance, and succeeded in arresting a portion of the party. The rest, including the commissioners, took to their heels, and were soon beyond the disputed territory. They reached Perrysburgh the following day in a highly demoralized condition, and reported they had been attacked by an overwhelming force of Michigan militia, under command of General Brown.

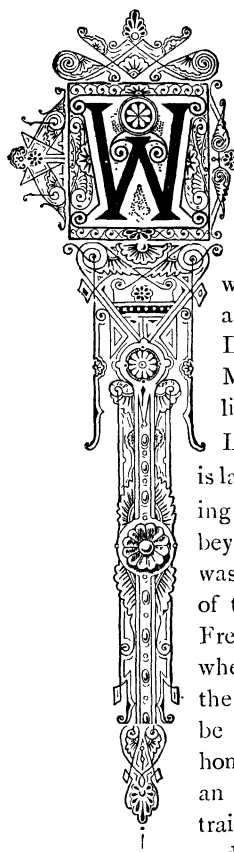
This summary breaking up of the surveying party produced the most tremendous excitement throughout Ohio. Governor Lucas called an extra session of the Legislature. But little remains to be said in reference to the "war." The question continued for some time to agitate the minds of the opposing parties; and the action of Congress was impatiently awaited. Michigan was admitted into the Union on the condition that she give to Ohio the disputed territory, and accept in return the Northern Peninsula, which she did.



Henry Woodbridge



— WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE. —



WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE, second Governor of Michigan, was born at Norwich, Conn., Aug. 20, 1780, and died at Detroit Oct. 20, 1861. He was of a family of three brothers and two sisters. His father, Dudley Woodbridge, removed to Marietta, Ohio, about 1790. The life of Wm. Woodbridge, by Chas. Lauman, from which this sketch is largely compiled, mentions nothing concerning his early education beyond the fact that it was such as was afforded by the average school of the time, except a year with the French colonists at Gallipolis, where he acquired a knowledge of the French language. It should be borne in mind, however, that home education at that time was an indispensable feature in the training of the young. To this and to a few studies well mastered,

is due that strong mental discipline which has served as a basis for many of the grand intellects that have adorned and helped to make our National history.

Mr. Woodbridge studied law at Marietta, having as a fellow student an intimate personal friend, a young man subsequently distinguished, but known at that time simply as Lewis Cass. He graduated at the law school in Connecticut, after a course there of nearly three years, and began to practice at Marietta in 1806. In June, 1806, he married, at Hartford, Connecticut, Juleanna, daughter of John Trumbell, a distinguished author and judge; and author of the

poem *McFingal*, which, during a dark period of the Revolution, wrought such a magic change upon the spirits of the colonists. He was happy in his domestic relations until the death of Mrs. W., Feb. 2, 19, 1860.

Our written biographies necessarily speak more fully of men, because of their active participation in public affairs, but human actions are stamped upon the page of time and when the scroll shall be unrolled the influence of good women upon the history of the world will be read side by side with the deeds of men. How much success and renown in life many men owe to their wives is probably little known. Mrs. W. enjoyed the best means of early education that the country afforded, and her intellectual genius enabled her to improve her advantages. During her life, side by side with the highest type of domestic and social graces, she manifested a keen intellectuality that formed the crown of a faultless character. She was a natural poet, and wrote quite a large number of fine verses, some of which are preserved in a printed memorial essay written upon the occasion of her death. In this essay, it is said of her "to contribute even in matters of minor importance, to elevate the reputation and add to the well being of her husband in the various stations he was called upon to fill, gave her the highest satisfaction." She was an invalid during the latter portion of her life, but was patient and cheerful to the end.

In 1807, Mr. W. was chosen a representative to the General Assembly of Ohio, and in 1809 was elected to the Senate, continuing a member by re-election until his removal from the State. He also held, by appointment, during the time the office of Prosecuting Attorney for his county. He took a leading part in the Legislature, and in 1812 drew up a declaration and resolutions, which passed the two houses unanimously

and attracted great attention, endorsing, in strongest and most emphatic terms, the war measures of President Madison. During the period from 1804 to 1814 the two law students, Woodbridge and Cass, had become widely separated. The latter was Governor of the Territory of Michigan under the historic "Governor and Judges" plan, with the indispensable requisite of a Secretary of the Territory. This latter position was, in 1814, without solicitation on his part, tendered to Mr. W. He accepted the position with some hesitation, and entered upon its duties as soon as he could make the necessary arrangements for leaving Ohio. The office of Secretary involved also the duties of collector of customs at the port of Detroit, and during the frequent absences of the Governor, the discharge of his duties, also including those of Superintendent of Indian Affairs. Mr. W. officiated as Governor for about two years out of the eight years that he held the office of Secretary. Under the administration of "Governor and Judges," which the people of the Territory preferred for economical reasons, to continue some time after their numbers entitled them to a more popular representative system, they were allowed no delegate in Congress. Mr. W., as a sort of informal agent of the people, by correspondence and also by a visit to the National capital, so clearly set forth the demand for representation by a delegate, that an act was passed in Congress in 1819 authorizing one to be chosen. Under this act Mr. W. was elected by the concurrence of all parties. His first action in Congress was to secure the passage of a bill recognizing and confirming the old French land titles in the Territory according to the terms of the treaty of peace with Great Britain at the close of the Revolution; and another for the construction of a Government road through the "black swamps" from the Miami River to Detroit, thus opening a means of land transit between Ohio and Michigan. He was influential in securing the passage of bills for the construction of Government roads from Detroit to Chicago, and Detroit to Fort Gratiot, and for the improvement of La Plaisance Bay. The expedition for the exploration of the country around Lake Superior and in the valley of the Upper Mississippi, projected by Governor Cass, was set on foot by means of representations made to the head of the department by Mr. W. While in Congress he strenuously maintained the right of Michigan to the strip of territory now forming the northern boundary of Ohio, which formed the subject of such grave dispute between Ohio and Michigan at the time of the admission of the latter into the Union. He served but one term as delegate to Congress, declining further service on account of personal and family considerations. Mr. W. continued to discharge the duties of Secretary of the Territory up to the time its Government passed into the "second grade."

In 1824, he was appointed one of a board of commissioners for adjusting private land claims in

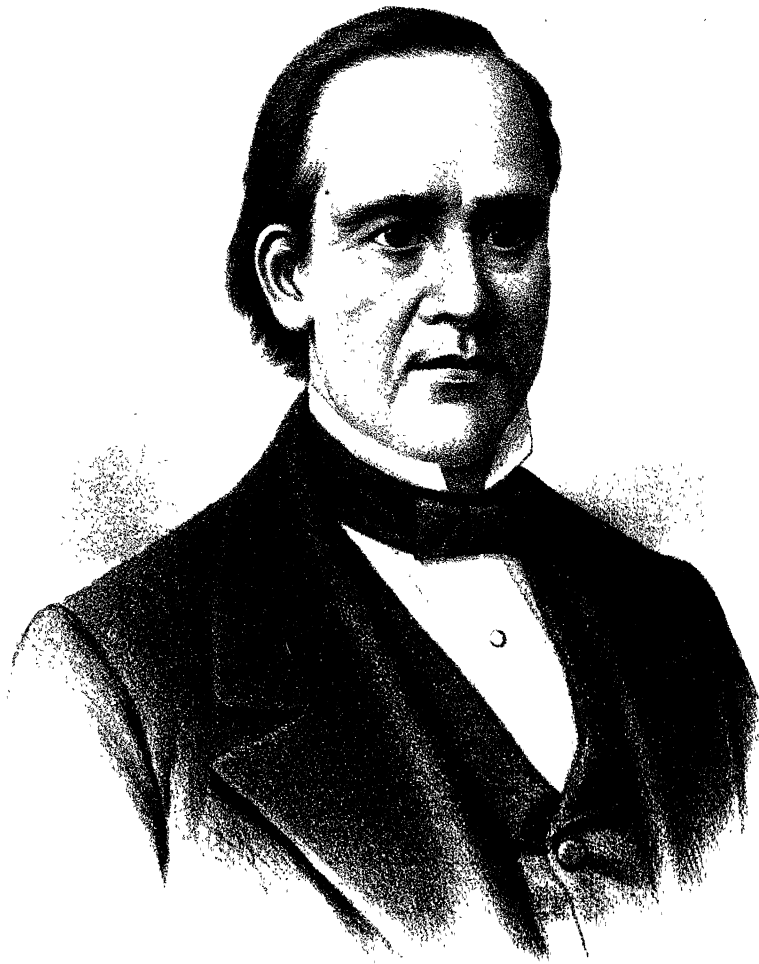
the Territory, and was engaged also in the practice of his profession, having the best law library in the Territory. In 1828, upon the recommendation of the Governor, Judges and others, he was appointed by the President, J. Q. Adams, to succeed Hon. James Withereil, who had resigned as a Judge of what is conventionally called the "Supreme Court" of the Territory. This court was apparently a continuation of the Territorial Court, under the "first grade" or "Governor and Judges" system. Although it was supreme in its judicial functions within the Territory, its powers and duties were of a very general character.

In 1832, the term of his appointment as Judge expiring, President Jackson appointed a successor, it is supposed on political grounds, much to the disappointment of the public and the bar of the Territory. The partisan feeling of the time extended into the Territory, and its people began to think of assuming the dignity of a State government. Party lines becoming very sharply drawn, he identified himself with the Whigs and was elected a member of the Convention of 1835, which formed the first State Constitution. In 1837 he was elected a member of the State Senate.

This sketch has purposely dealt somewhat in detail with what may be called Judge W's. earlier career, because it is closely identified with the early history of the State, and the development of its political system. Since the organization of the State Government the history of Michigan is more familiar, and hence no review of Judge W's. career as Governor and Senator will be attempted. He was elected Governor in 1839, under a popular impression that the affairs of the State had not been prudently administered by the Democrats. He served as Governor but little more than a year, when he was elected to the Senate of the United States.

His term in the Senate practically closed his political life, although he was strongly urged by many prominent men for the Whig nomination for Vice President in 1848.

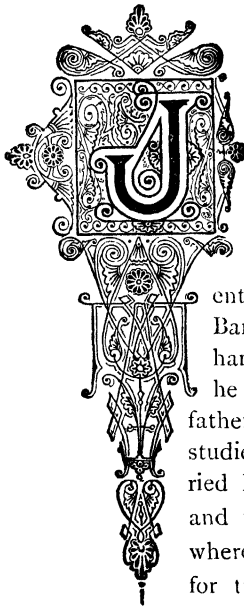
Soon after his appointment as Judge in 1828, Governor W. took up his residence on a tract of land which he owned in the township of Spring Wells, a short distance below what was then the corporate limits of Detroit, where he resided during the remainder of his life. Both in his public papers and private communications, Governor W. shows himself a master of language; he is fruitful in simile and illustration, logical in arrangement, happy in the choice and treatment of topics, and terse and vigorous in expression. Judge W. was a Congregationalist. His opinions on all subjects were decided; he was earnest and energetic, courteous and dignified, and at times exhibited a vein of fine humor that was the more attractive because not too often allowed to come to the surface. His letters and addresses show a deep and earnest affection not only for his ancestral home, but the home of his adoption and for friends and family.



Prof Barry



JOHN S. BARRY



JOHN STEWARD BARRY, Governor of Michigan from Jan. 3, 1842, to Jan. 5, 1846, and from Jan. 7, 1850, to Jan. 1, 1852, was born at Amherst, N. H., Jan. 29, 1802. His parents, John and Ellen (Steward) Barry, early removed to Rockingham, Vt., where he remained until he became of age, working on his father's farm, and pursuing his studies at the same time. He married Mary Kidder, of Grafton, Vt., and in 1824 went to Georgia, Vt., where he had charge of an academy for two years, meanwhile studying law. He afterward practiced law in that State. While he was in Georgia he was for some time a member of the Governor's staff, with the title of Governor's Aid, and at a somewhat earlier period was Captain of a company of State militia. In 1831 he removed to Michigan, and settled at White Pigeon, where he engaged in mercantile business with I. W. Willard.

Four years after, 1834, Mr. Barry removed to Con-

stantine and continued his mercantile pursuits. He became Justice of the Peace at White Pigeon, Mich. in 1831, and held the office until the year 1835. Mr. Barry's first public office was that of a member of the first constitutional convention, which assembled and framed the constitution upon which Michigan was admitted into the Union. He took an important and prominent part in the proceedings of that body, and showed himself to be a man of far more than ordinary ability.

Upon Michigan being admitted into the Union, Mr. Barry was chosen State Senator, and so favorably were his associates impressed with his abilities at the first session of the Legislature that they looked to him as a party leader, and that he should head the State ticket at the following election. Accordingly he received the nomination for Governor at the hands of his party assembled in convention. He was elected, and so popular was his administration that, in 1842, he was again elected. During these years Michigan was embarrassed by great financial difficulties, and it was through his wisdom and sound judgment that the State was finally placed upon a solid financial basis.

During the first year of Gov. Barry's first term, the University at Ann Arbor was opened for the reception

of students. The Michigan Central and Michigan Southern railroads were being rapidly constructed, and general progress was everywhere noticeable. In 1842, the number of pupils reported as attending the public schools was nearly fifty-eight thousand. In 1843, a State land office was established at Marshall, which was invested with the charge and disposition of all the lands belonging to the State. In 1844, the taxable property of the State was found to be over twenty-eight millions of dollars, the tax being at the rate of two mills on the dollar. The expenses of the State were only seventy thousand dollars, while the income from the railroads was nearly three hundred thousand dollars. At this time the University of Michigan had become so prosperous that its income was ample to pay the interest on the University debt; and the amount of money which the State was able to loan the several progressing railroads was one hundred and twenty thousand dollars. Efforts were made to increase the efficiency of the common schools with good results. In 1845, when Gov. Barry's second term expired, the population of the State was more than three hundred thousand.

The constitution of the State forbade more than two consecutive terms, but he was called upon to fill the position again in 1850—the only instance of the kind in the history of the State. He was a member of the Territorial Legislature, of the Constitutional Convention, and afterward of the State House of Representatives.

During Mr. Barry's third term as Governor the Normal School was established at Ypsilanti, which was endowed with lands and placed in charge of a board of education consisting of six persons. A new constitution for the government of the State was also adopted and the "Great Railway Conspiracy Case" was tried. This grew out of a series of lawless acts which had been committed upon the property of the Michigan Central Railroad Company, along the line of their road, and finally the burning of the depot at Detroit, in 1850.

At a setting of the grand jury of Wayne County, April 24, 1851, 37 men of the 50 under arrest for this crime were indicted. May 20, following, the accused parties appeared at the Circuit Court of Wayne, of which Warner Wing was resident judge. The Railroad Company employed ten eminent lawyers, including David Stuart, John Van Arman, James A. Van Dyke, Jacob M. Howard, Alex. D. Fraser, Daniel Goodwin and William Gray. The defendants were represented by six members of the State bar, led by William H. Seward, of New York. The trial occupied four months, during which time the plaintiffs examined 246 witnesses in 27 days, and the defendants 249 in 40 days. Mr. Van Dyke addressed the jury for the prosecution; William H. Seward for the defense.

The great lawyer was convinced of the innocence

of his clients, nor did the verdict of that jury and the sentence of that judge remove his firm belief that his clients were the victims of purchased treachery, rather than so many sacrifices to justice.

The verdict of "guilty" was rendered at 9 o'clock P. M., Sept. 25, 1851. On the 26th the prisoners were put forward to receive sentence, when many of them protested their entire innocence, after which the presiding judge condemned 12 of the number to the following terms of imprisonment, with hard labor, within the State's prison, situate in their county: Ammi Filley, ten years; Orlando L. Williams, ten years; Aaron Mount, eight years; Andrew J. Freeland, eight years; Eben Faruham, eight years; William Corvin, eight years; Richard Price, eight years; Evan Price, eight years; Lyman Champlin, five years; Willard W. Champlin, five years; Erastus Champlin, five years; Erastus Smith, five years.

In 1840, Gov. Barry became deeply interested in the cultivation of the sugar beet, and visited Europe to obtain information in reference to its culture.

He was twice Presidential Elector, and his last public service was that of a delegate to the National Democratic Convention held in Chicago in 1864.

He was a man who, throughout life, maintained a high character for integrity and fidelity to the trusts bestowed upon him, whether of a public or a private nature, and he is acknowledged by all to have been one of the most efficient and popular Governors the State has ever had.

Gov. Barry was a man of incorruptible integrity. His opinions, which he reached by the most thorough investigation, he held tenaciously. His strong convictions and outspoken honesty made it impossible for him to take an undefined position when a principle was involved. His attachments and prejudices were strong, yet he was never accused of favoritism in his administration of public affairs. As a speaker he was not remarkable. Solidity, rather than brilliancy, characterized his oratory, which is described as argumentative and instructive, but cold, hard, and entirely wanting in rhetorical ornament. He was never eloquent, seldom humorous or sarcastic, and in manner rather awkward.

Although Mr. Barry's educational advantages were so limited, he was a life-long student. He mastered both ancient and modern languages, and acquired a thorough knowledge of history. No man owed less to political intrigue as a means of gaining position. He was a true statesman, and gained public esteem by his solid worth. His political connections were always with the Democratic party, and his opinions were usually extreme.

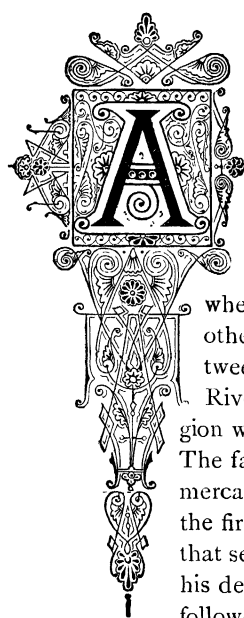
Mr. Barry retired to private life after the beginning of the ascendancy of the Republican party, and carried on his mercantile business at Constantine. He died Jan. 14, 1870, his wife's death having occurred a year previous, March 30, 1869. They left no children.



Stephens Felch



ALPHEUS FELCH.



ALPHEUS FELCH, the third Governor of Michigan, was born in Limerick, Maine, September 28, 1806. His grandfather, Abijah Felch, was a soldier in the Revolution; and when a young man, having with others obtained a grant of land between the Great and Little Ossipee Rivers, in Maine, moved to that region when it was yet a wilderness. The father of Mr. Felch embarked in mercantile life at Limerick. He was the first to engage in that business in that section, and continued it until his death. The death of the father, followed within a year by the death of the mother, left the subject of this sketch, then three years old, to the care of relatives, and he found a home with his paternal grandfather, where he remained until his death. Mr. Felch received his early education in the district school and a neighboring academy. In 1821 he became a student at Phillips Exter Academy, and, subsequently, entered Bowdoin College, graduated with the class of 1827. He at once began the study of law and was admitted to practice at Bangor, Me., in 1830.

He began the practice of his profession at Houlton, Me., where he remained until 1833. The severity of the climate impaired his health, never very good, and he found it necessary to seek a change of climate. He disposed of his library and started to seek a new home. His intention was to join his friend,

Sargent S. Prentiss, at Vicksburg, Miss., but on his arrival at Cincinnati, Mr. Felch was attacked by cholera, and when he had recovered sufficiently to permit of his traveling, found that the danger of the disease was too great to permit a journey down the river. He therefore determined to come to Michigan. He first began to practice in this State at Monroe, where he continued until 1843, when he removed to Ann Arbor. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1835, and continued a member of that body during the years 1836 and 1837. While he held this office, the general banking law of the State was enacted, and went into operation. After mature deliberation, he became convinced that the proposed system of banking could not prove beneficial to the public interests; and that, instead of relieving the people from the pecuniary difficulties under which they were laboring, it would result in still further embarrassment. He, therefore, opposed the bill, and pointed out to the House the disasters which, in his opinion, were sure to follow its passage. The public mind, however, was so favorably impressed by the measure that no other member, in either branch of the Legislature, raised a dissenting voice, and but two voted with him in opposition to the bill. Early in 1838, he was appointed one of the Bank Commissioners of the State, and held that office for more than a year. During this time, the new banking law had given birth to that numerous progeny known as "wild-cat" banks. Almost every village had its bank. The country was flooded with depressed "wild-cat" money. The examinations of the Bank Commissioners brought to light frauds at every point, which were fearlessly re-

ported to the Legislature, and were followed by criminal prosecutions of the guilty parties, and the closing of many of their institutions. The duties of the office were most laborious, and in 1839 Mr. Felch resigned. The chartered right of almost every bank had, in the meantime, been declared forfeited and the law repealed. It was subsequently decided to be constitutional by the Supreme Court of the State. In the year 1842 Governor Felch was appointed to the office of Auditor General of the State; but after holding the office only a few weeks, was commissioned by the Governor as one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Fletcher. In January, 1843, he was elected to the United States Senate for an unexpired term. In 1845 he was elected Governor of Michigan, and entered upon his duties at the commencement of the next year. In 1847 he was elected a Senator in Congress for six years; and at once retired from the office of Governor, by resignation, which took effect March 4, 1847, when his Senatorial term commenced. While a member of the Senate he acted on the Committee on Public Lands, and for four years was its Chairman. He filled the honorable position of Senator with becoming dignity, and with great credit to the State of Michigan.

During Governor Felch's administration the two railroads belonging to the State were sold to private corporations,—the Central for \$2,000,000, and the Southern for \$500,000. The exports of the State amounted in 1846 to \$4,647,608. The total capacity of vessels enrolled in the collection district at Detroit was 26,928 tons, the steam vessels having 8,400 and the sailing vessels 18,528 tons, the whole giving employment to 18,000 seamen. In 1847, there were 39 counties in the State, containing 435 townships; and 275 of these townships were supplied with good libraries, containing an aggregate of 37,000 volumes.

At the close of his Senatorial term, in March, 1853, Mr. Felch was appointed, by President Pierce, one of the Commissioners to adjust and settle the Spanish

and Mexican land claims in California, under the treaty of Gaudalupe Hidalgo, and an act of Congress passed for that purpose. He went to California in May, 1853, and was made President of the Commission. The duties of this office were of the most important and delicate character. The interest of the new State, and the fortunes of many of its citizens, both the native Mexican population and the recent American immigration; the right of the Pueblos to their common lands, and of the Catholic Church to the lands of the Missions,—the most valuable of the State,—were involved in the adjudications of this Commission. In March, 1856, their labors were brought to a close by the final disposition of all the claims which were presented. The record of their proceedings,—the testimony which was given in each case, and the decision of the Commissioners thereon,—consisting of some forty large volumes, was deposited in the Department of the Interior at Washington.

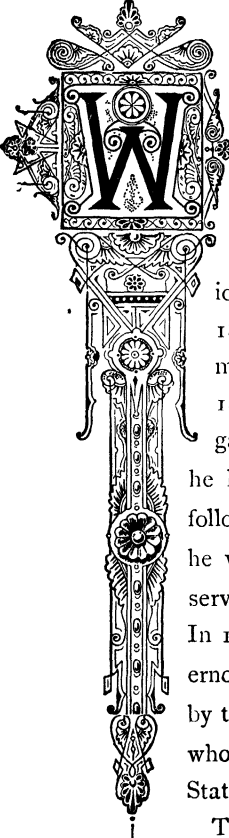
In June of that year, Governor Felch returned to Ann Arbor, where he has since been engaged principally in legal business. Since his return he has been nominated for Governor and also for U. S. Senator, and twice for Judge of the Supreme Court. But the Democratic party, to which he has always been attached, being in the minority, he failed of an election. In 1873 he withdrew from the active practice of law, and, with the exception of a tour in Europe, in 1875 has since led a life of retirement at his home in Ann Arbor. In 1877 the University of Michigan conferred upon him the degree of LL. D. For many years he was one of the Regents of Michigan University, and in the spring of 1879 was appointed Tappan Professor of Law in the same. Mr. Felch is the oldest surviving member of the Legislature from Monroe Co., the oldest and only surviving Bank Commissioner of the State, the oldest surviving Auditor General of the State, the oldest surviving Governor of the State, the oldest surviving Judge of the Supreme Court of Michigan, and the oldest surviving United States Senator from the State of Michigan.



Wm. G. Greenly



WILLIAM L. GREENLY.



WILLIAM L. GREENLY, Governor of Michigan for the year 1847, was born at Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y., Sept. 18, 1813. He graduated at Union College, Schenectady, in 1831, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1834. In 1836, having removed to Michigan, he settled in Adrian, where he has since resided. The year following his arrival in Michigan he was elected State Senator and served in that capacity until 1839. In 1845 he was elected Lieut. Governor and became acting Governor by the resignation of Gov. Felch, who was elected to the United States Senate.

The war with Mexico was brought to a successful termination during Gov. Greenly's administration. We regret to say that there are only few records extant of the action of Michigan troops in the Mexican war. That many went there and fought well are points conceded; but their names and nativity are hidden away in United States archives

and where it is almost impossible to find them.

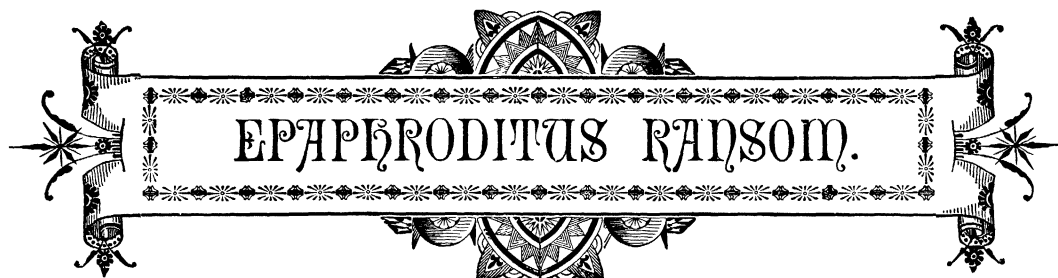
The soldiers of this State deserve much of the credit of the memorable achievements of Co. K, 3d Dragoons, and Cos. A, E, and G of the U. S. Inf. The two former of these companies, recruited in this State, were reduced to one-third their original number.

In May, 1846, the Governor of Michigan was notified by the War Department of the United States to enroll a regiment of volunteers, to be held in readiness for service whenever demanded. At his summons 13 independent volunteer companies, 11 of infantry and two of cavalry, at once fell into line. Of the infantry four companies were from Detroit, bearing the honored names of Montgomery, Lafayette, Scott and Brady upon their banners. Of the remainder Monroe tendered two, Lenawee County three, St. Clair, Berrien and Hillsdale each one, and Wayne County an additional company. Of these alone the veteran Bradys were accepted and ordered into service. In addition to them ten companies, making the First Regiment of Michigan Volunteers, springing from various parts of the State, but embodying to a great degree the material of which the first volunteers was formed, were not called for until October following. This regiment was soon in readiness and proceeded by orders from Government to the seat of war.

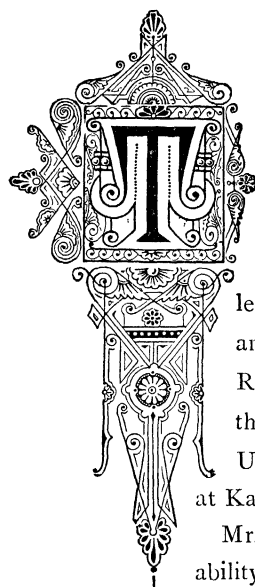




Epaphroditus Parrison.



EPAPHRODITUS RANSOM.



HE HON. EPAPHRODITUS RANSOM, the Seventh Governor of Michigan, was a native of Massachusetts. In that State he received a collegiate education, studied law, and was admitted to the bar. Removing to Michigan about the time of its admission to the Union, he took up his residence at Kalamazoo.

Mr. Ransom served with marked ability for a number of years in the State Legislature, and in 1837 he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. In 1843 he was promoted to Chief Justice, which office he retained until 1845, when he resigned.

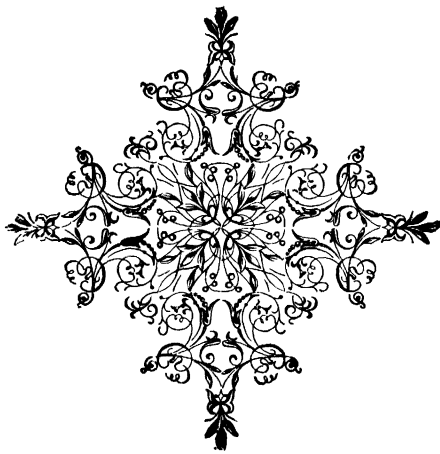
Shortly afterwards he became deeply interested in the building of plank roads in the western portion of the State, and in this business lost the greater portion of the property which he had accumulated by years of toil and industry.

Mr. Ransom became Governor of the State of Michigan in the fall of 1847, and served during one term, performing the duties of the office in a truly statesmanlike manner. He subsequently became President of the Michigan Agricultural Society, in which position he displayed the same ability that

shone forth so prominently in his acts as Governor. He held the office of Regent of the Michigan University several times, and ever advocated a liberal policy in its management.

Subsequently he was appointed receiver of the land office in one of the districts in Kansas, by President Buchanan, to which State he had removed, and where he died before the expiration of his term of office.

We sum up the events and affairs of the State under Gov. Ransom's administration as follows: The Asylum for the Insane was established, as also the Asylum for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind. Both of these institutes were liberally endowed with lands, and each of them placed in charge of a board of five trustees. The appropriation in 1849 for the deaf and dumb and blind amounted to \$81,500. On the first of March, 1848, the first telegraph line was completed from New York to Detroit, and the first dispatch transmitted on that day. The following figures show the progress in agriculture: The land reported as under cultivation in 1848 was 1,437,460 acres; of wheat there were produced 4,749,300 bushels; other grains, 8,197,767 bushels; wool, 1,645,756 pounds; maple sugar, 1,774,369 pounds; horses, 52,305; cattle, 210,268; swine, 152,541; sheep, 610,534; while the flour mills numbered 228, and the lumber mills amounted to 730. 1847, an act was passed removing the Legislature from Detroit to Lansing, and temporary buildings for the use of the Legislature were immediately erected, at a cost of \$12,450.

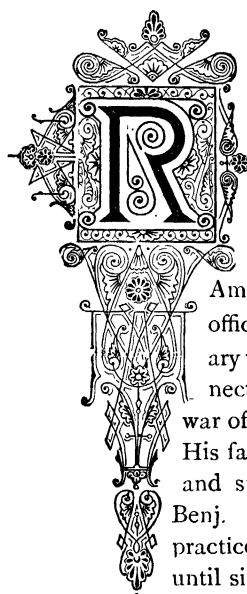




Prof. Williams


 A decorative horizontal banner with ornate scrollwork and floral patterns. In the center, the name "ROBERT McCLELLAND." is written in a bold, serif font. The banner is topped with a crown-like ornament and has a central floral motif at the bottom.

ROBERT McCLELLAND.



ROBERT McCLELLAND, Governor of Michigan from Jan. 1, 1852, to March 8, 1853, was born at Greencastle, Franklin Co., Penn., Aug. 1, 1807.

Among his ancestors were several officers of rank in the Revolutionary war, and some of his family connections were distinguished in the war of 1812, and that with Mexico. His father was an eminent physician and surgeon who studied under Dr. Benj. Rush, of Philadelphia, and practiced his profession successfully until six months before his death, at the age of 84 years. Although Mr.

McClelland's family had been in good circumstances, when he was 17 years old he was thrown upon his own resources. After taking the usual preliminary studies, and teaching school to obtain the means, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Penn., from which he graduated among the first in his class, in 1829. He then resumed teaching, and having completed the course of study for the legal profession, was admitted to the bar at Chambersburg, Penn., in 1831. Soon afterward he removed to the city of Pittsburgh, where he practiced for almost a year.

In 1833, Mr. McClelland removed to Monroe, in

the Territory of Michigan, where, after a severe examination, he became a member of the bar of Michigan, and engaged in practice with bright prospect of success. In 1835, a convention was called to frame a constitution for the proposed State of Michigan, of which Mr. McClelland was elected a member. He took a prominent part in its deliberations and ranked among its ablest debaters. He was appointed the first Bank Commissioner of the State, by Gov. Mason, and received an offer of the Attorney Generalship, but declined both of these offices in order to attend to his professional duties.

In 1838, Mr. McClelland was elected to the State Legislature, in which he soon became distinguished as the head of several important committees, Speaker *pro tempore*, and as an active, zealous and efficient member. In 1840, Gen. Harrison, as a candidate for the Presidency, swept the country with an overwhelming majority, and at the same time the State of Michigan was carried by the Whigs under the popular cry of "Woodbridge and reform" against the Democratic party. At this time Mr. McClelland stood among the acknowledged leaders of the latter organization; was elected a member of the State House of Representatives, and with others adopted a plan to regain a lost authority and prestige.

This party soon came again into power in the State, and having been returned to the State Legislature Mr. McClelland's leadership was acknowledged by his election as Speaker of the House of Representatives

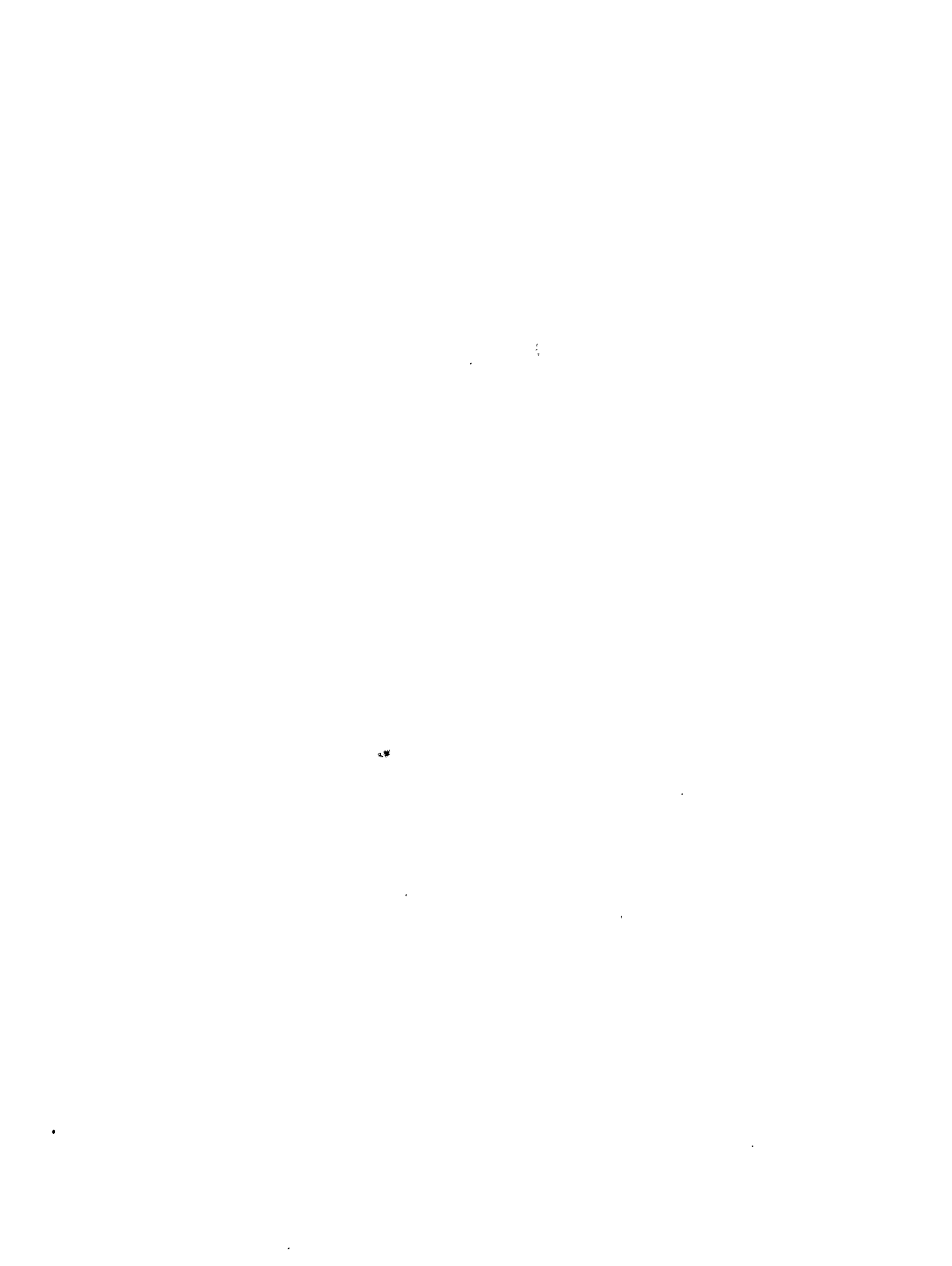
in 1843. Down to this time Michigan had constituted one congressional district. The late Hon. Jacob M. Howard had been elected against Hon. Alpheus Felch by a strong majority; but, in 1843, so thoroughly had the Democratic party recovered from its defeat of 1840 that Mr. McClelland, as a candidate for Congress, carried Detroit district by a majority of about 2,500. Mr. McClelland soon took a prominent position in Congress among the veterans of that body. During his first term he was placed on Committee on Commerce, and organized and carried through what were known as the "Harbor bills." The continued confidence of his constituency was manifested in his election to the 29th Congress. At the opening of this session he had acquired a National reputation, and so favorably was he known as a parliamentarian that his name was mentioned for Speaker of the House of Representatives. He declined the offer in favor of J. W. Davis, of Indiana, who was elected. During this term he became Chairman of Committee on Commerce, in which position his reports and advocacy of important measures at once attracted public attention. The members of this committee, as an evidence of the esteem in which they held his services and of their personal regard for him, presented him with a cane which he retains as a souvenir of the donors, and of his labors in Congress.

In 1847, Mr. McClelland was re-elected to Congress, and at the opening of the 30th Congress became a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations. While acting in this capacity, what was known as the "French Spoliation Bill" came under his special charge, and his management of the same was such as to command universal approbation. While in Congress, Mr. McClelland was an advocate of the right of petition as maintained by John Q. Adams, when the petition, was clothed in decorous language and presented in the proper manner. This he regarded as the citizens' constitutional right which should not be impaired by any doctrines of temporary expediency. He also voted for the adoption of Mr. Giddings's bill for the abolishing of slavery in the District of Columbia. Mr. McClelland was one of the few Democrats associated with David Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, in bringing forward the celebrated "Wilmot Proviso," with a view to prevent further extension of slavery in new territory which might be acquired by the United States. He and Mr. Wilmot were together at the time in Washington, and on intimate and confidential terms. Mr. McClelland was in several National conventions and in the Baltimore convention, which nominated Gen. Cass for President, in 1848, doing valiant service that year for the election of that distinguished statesman. On leaving Congress, in 1848, Mr. McClelland returned to the practice of his profession at Monroe. In 1850 a convention of the State of Michigan was called to revise the State constitution. He was elected a

member and was regarded therein as among the ablest and most experienced leaders. His clear judgment and wise moderation were conspicuous, both in the committee room and on the floor, in debate. In 1850, he was President of the Democratic State convention which adopted resolutions in support of Henry Clay's famous compromise measures, of which Mr. McClelland was a strong advocate. He was a member of the Democratic National convention in 1852, and in that year, in company with Gen. Cass and Governor Felch, he made a thorough canvass of the State. He continued earnestly to advocate the Clay compromise measures, and took an active part in the canvass which resulted in the election of Gen. Pierce to the Presidency.

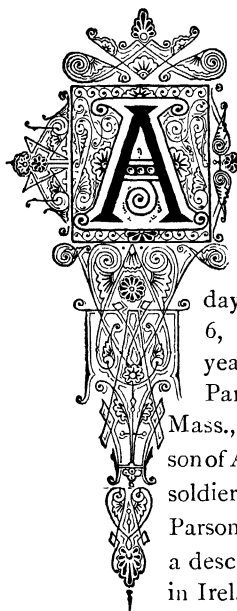
In 1851, the new State constitution took effect and it was necessary that a Governor should be elected for one year in order to prevent an interregnum, and to bring the State Government into operation under the new constitution. Mr. McClelland was elected Governor, and in the fall of 1852 was re-elected for a term of two years, from Jan. 1, 1853. His administration was regarded as wise, prudent and conciliatory, and was as popular as could be expected at a time when party spirit ran high. There was really no opposition, and when he resigned, in March, 1853, the State Treasury was well filled, and the State otherwise prosperous. So widely and favorably had Mr. McClelland become known as a statesman that on the organization of the cabinet by President Pierce, in March, 1853, he was made Secretary of the Interior, in which capacity he served most creditably during four years of the Pierce administration. He thoroughly re-organized his department and reduced the expenditure. He adopted a course with the Indians which relieved them from the impositions and annoyances of the traders, and produced harmony and civilization among them. During his administration there was neither complaint from the tribes nor corruption among agents, and he left the department in perfect order and system. In 1867, Michigan again called a convention to revise the State constitution. Mr. McClelland was a member and here again his long experience made him conspicuous as a prudent adviser, a sagacious parliamentary leader. As a lawyer he was terse and pointed in argument, clear, candid and impressive in his addresses to the jury. His sincerity and earnestness, with which was occasionally mingled a pleasant humor, made him an able and effective advocate. In speaking before the people on political subjects he was especially forcible and happy. In 1870 he made the tour of Europe, which, through his extensive personal acquaintance with European diplomates, he was enabled to enjoy much more than most travelers.

Mr. McClelland married, in 1837, Miss Sarah E. Sabin, of Williamstown, Mass. They have had six children, two of whom now survive.





A. Parsons



ANDREW PARSONS, Governor of Michigan from March 8, 1853 to Jan. 3, 1855, was born in the town of Hoosick, County of Rensselaer, and State of New York, on the 22d day of July, 1817, and died June 6, 1855, at the early age of 38 years. He was the son of John Parsons, born at Newburyport, Mass., Oct. 2, 1782, and who was the son of Andrew Parsons, a Revolutionary soldier, who was the son of Phineas Parsons, the son of Samuel Parsons, a descendant of Walter Parsons, born in Ireland in 1290.

Of this name and family, some one hundred and thirty years ago, Bishop Gilson remarked in his edition of Camden's Britannia: "The honorable family of Parsons have been advanced to the dignity of Viscounts and more lately Earls of Ross."

The following are descendants of these families: Sir John Parsons, born 1481, was Mayor of Hereford; Robert Parsons, born in 1546, lived near Bridgewater, England. He was educated at Ballial College, Oxford, and was a noted writer and defender of the Romish faith. He established an English College at Rome and another at Valladolid. Frances Parsons, born in 1556, was Vicar of Rothwell, in Nottingham; Bartholomew Parsons, born in 1618, was another noted member of the family. In 1634, Thomas Parsons was knighted by Charles 1. Joseph and Benjamin, brothers, were born in Great Torrington, England,

and accompanied their father and others to New England about 1630. Samuel Parsons, born at Salisbury, Mass., in 1707, graduated at Harvard College in 1730, ordained at Rye, N. H., Nov. 3, 1736, married Mary Jones, daughter of Samuel Jones, of Boston, Oct. 9, 1739, died Jan. 4, 1789, at the age of 82, in the 53rd year of his ministry. The grandfather of Mary Jones was Capt. John Adams, of Boston, grandson of Henry, of Braintree, who was among the first settlers of Massachusetts, and from whom a numerous race of the name are descended, including two Presidents of the United States. The Parsons have become very numerous and are found throughout New England, and many of the descendants are scattered in all parts of the United States, and especially in the Middle and Western States. Governor Andrew Parsons came to Michigan in 1835, at the age of 17 years, and spent the first summer at Lower Ann Arbor, where for a few months he taught school which he was compelled to abandon from ill health.

He was one of the large number of men of sterling worth, who came from the East to Michigan when it was an infant State, or, even prior to its assuming the dignity of a State, and who, by their wisdom, enterprise and energy, have developed its wonderful natural resources, until to-day it ranks with the proudest States of the Union. These brave men came to Michigan with nothing to aid them in the conquest of the wilderness save courageous hearts and strong and willing hands. They gloriously conquered, however, and to them is due all honor for the labors so nobly performed, for the solid and sure foundation which they laid of a great Commonwealth.

In the fall of 1835, he explored the Grand River Valley in a frail canoe, the whole length of the river, from Jackson to Lake Michigan, and spent the following winter as clerk in a store at Prairie Creek, in Ionia, County, and in the spring went to Marshall, where he resided with his brother, the Hon. Luke H. Parsons, also now deceased, until fall, when he went to Shiawassee County, then with Clinton County, and an almost unbroken wilderness and constituting one organized township. In 1837 this territory was organized into a county and, at the age of only 19 years, he (Andrew) was elected County Clerk. In 1840, he was elected Register of Deeds, re-elected in 1842, and also in 1844. In 1846, he was elected to the State Senate, was appointed Prosecuting Attorney in 1848, and elected Regent of the University in 1851, and Lieutenant Governor, and became acting Governor, in 1853, elected again to the Legislature in 1854, and, overcome by debilitated health, hard labor and the responsibilities of his office and cares of his business, retired to his farm, where he died soon after.

He was a fluent and persuasive speaker and well calculated to make friends of his acquaintances. He was always true to his trust, and the whole world could not persuade nor drive him to do what he conceived to be wrong. When Governor, a most powerful railroad influence was brought to bear upon him, to induce him to call an extra session of the Legislature. Meetings were held in all parts of the State for that purpose. In some sections the resolutions were of a laudatory nature, intending to make him do their bidding by resort to friendly and flattering words. In other places the resolutions were of a demanding nature, while in others they were threatening beyond measure. Fearing that all these influences might fail to induce him to call the extra session, a large sum of money was sent him, and liberal offers tendered him if he would gratify the railroad interest of the State and call the extra session, but, immovable, he returned the money and refused to receive any favors, whether from any party who would attempt to corrupt him by laudations, liberal offers, or

by threats, and in a short letter to the people, after giving overwhelming reasons that no sensible man could dispute, showing the circumstances were not "extraordinary," he refused to call the extra session. This brought down the wrath of various parties upon his head, but they were soon forced to acknowledge the wisdom and the justice of his course. One of his greatest enemies said, after a long acquaintance: "though not always coinciding with his views I never doubted his honesty of purpose. He at all times sought to perform his duties in strict accordance, with the dictates of his conscience, and the behests of his oath." The following eulogium from a political opponent is just in its conception and creditable to its author: "Gov. Parsons was a politician of the Democratic school, a man of pure moral character, fixed and exemplary habits, and entirely blameless in every public and private relation of life. As a politician he was candid, frank and free from bitterness, as an executive officer firm, constant and reliable." The highest commendations we can pay the deceased is to give his just record,—that of being an honest man.

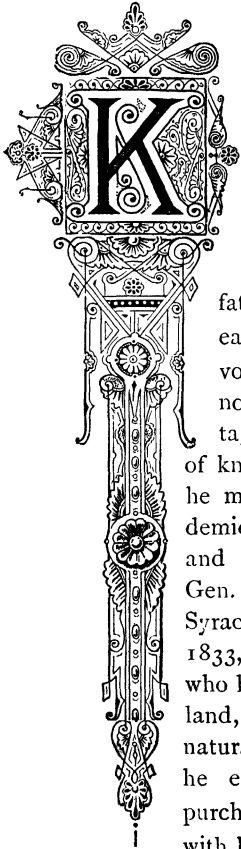
In the spring of 1854, during the administration of Governor Parsons, the Republican party, at least as a State organization, was first formed in the United States "under the oaks" at Jackson, by anti-slavery men of both the old parties. Great excitement prevailed at this time, occasioned by the settling of Kansas, and the issue thereby brought up, whether slavery should exist there. For the purpose of permitting slavery there, the "Missouri compromise" (which limited slavery to the south of 36° 30') was repealed, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas. This was repealed by a bill admitting Kansas and Nebraska into the Union, as Territories, and those who were opposed to this repeal measure were in short called "anti-Nebraska" men. The epithets, "Nebraska" and "anti-Nebraska," were temporarily employed to designate the slavery and anti-slavery parties, pending the desolution of the old Democratic and Whig parties and the organization of the new Democratic and Republican parties of the present.



Rep. Bingham



KINSLEY S. BINGHAM.



INSLEY S. BINGHAM, Governor of Michigan from 1855 to 1859, and United States Senator, was born in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y., Dec. 16, 1808. His father was a farmer, and his own early life was consequently devoted to agricultural pursuits, but notwithstanding the disadvantages related to the acquisition of knowledge in the life of a farmer he managed to secure a good academic education in his native State and studied law in the office of Gen. James R. Lawrence, now of Syracuse, N. Y. In the spring of 1833, he married an estimable lady who had recently arrived from Scotland, and obeying the impulse of a naturally enterprising disposition, he emigrated to Michigan and purchased a new farm in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Robert

Worden, in Green Oak, Livingston County. Here, on the border of civilization, buried in the primeval forest, our late student commenced the arduous task of preparing a future home, clearing and fencing, putting up buildings, etc., at such a rate that the land

chosen was soon reduced to a high state of cultivation.

Becoming deservedly prominent, Mr. Bingham was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace and Postmaster under the Territorial government, and was the first Probate Judge in the county. In the year 1836, when Michigan became a State, he was elected to the first Legislature. He was four times re-elected, and Speaker of the House of Representatives three years. In 1846 he was elected on the Democratic ticket, Representative to Congress, and was the only practical farmer in that body. He was never forgetful of the interest of agriculture, and was in particular opposed to the introduction of "Wood's Patent Cast Iron Plow" which he completely prevented. He was re-elected to Congress in 1848, during which time he strongly opposed the extension of slavery in the territory of the United States and was committed to and voted for the Wilmot Proviso.

In 1854, at the first organization of the Republican party, in consequence of his record in Congress as a Free Soil Democrat, Mr. Bingham was nominated and elected Governor of the State, and re-elected in 1856. Still faithful to the memory of his own former occupation, he did not forget the farmers during his administration, and among other profits of his zeal in their behalf, he became mainly instrumental in the establishment of the Agricultural College at Lansing.

In 1859, Governor Bingham was elected Senator in Congress and took an active part in the stormy campaign in the election of Abraham Lincoln. He wit-

nessed the commencement of the civil war while a member of the United States Senate. After a comparatively short life of remarkable promise and public activity he was attacked with apoplexy and died suddenly at his residence, in Green Oak, Oct. 5, 1861.

The most noticeable event in Governor Bingham's first term was the completion of the ship canal, at the Falls of St. Mary. In 1852, August 26, an act of Congress was approved, granting to the State of Michigan seven hundred and fifty thousand acres of land for the purpose of constructing a ship canal between Lakes Huron and Superior. In 1853, the Legislature accepted the grant, and provided for the appointment of commissioners to select the donated lands, and to arrange for building the canal. A company of enterprising men was formed, and a contract was entered into by which it was arranged that the canal should be finished in two years, and the work was pushed rapidly forward. Every article of consumption, machinery, working implements and materials, timber for the gates, stones for the locks, as well as men and supplies, had to be transported to the site of the canal from Detroit, Cleveland, and other lake ports. The rapids which had to be surmounted have a fall of seventeen feet and are about one mile long. The length of the canal is less than one mile, its width one hundred feet, depth twelve feet and it has two locks of solid masonry. In May, 1855, the work was completed, accepted by the commissioners, and formally delivered to the State authorities.

The disbursements on account of the construction of the canal and selecting the lands amounted to one million of dollars; while the lands which were assigned to the company, and selected through the agency at the Sault, as well as certain lands in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas, filled to an acre the Government grant. The opening of the canal was an important event in the history of the improvement of the State. It was a valuable link in the chain of lake commerce, and particularly important to the interests of the Upper Peninsula.

There were several educational, charitable and reformatory institutions inaugurated and opened during Gov. Bingham's administrations. The Michigan Agricultural College owes its establishment to a provision of the State Constitution of 1850. Article 13 says, "The Legislature shall, as soon as practicable, provide for the establishment of an agricultural school." For the purpose of carrying into practice this provision, legislation was commenced in 1855, and the act required that the school should be within ten miles of Lansing, and that not more than \$15 an acre should be paid for the farm and college grounds. The college was opened to students in May, 1857, the first of existing agricultural colleges in the United States. Until the spring of 1861, it was under the control of the State Board of Education; since that time it has been under the management of the State Board

of Agriculture, which was created for that purpose.

In its essential features, of combining study and labor, and of uniting general and professional studies in its course, the college has remained virtually unchanged from the first. It has a steady growth in number of students, in means of illustration and efficiency of instruction.

The Agricultural College is three miles east of Lansing, comprising several fine buildings; and there are also very beautiful, substantial residences for the professors. There are also an extensive, well-filled green-house, a very large and well-equipped chemical laboratory, one of the most scientific apiaries in the United States, a general museum, a museum of mechanical inventions, another of vegetable products, extensive barns, piggeries, etc., etc., in fine trim for the purposes designed. The farm consists of 676 acres, of which about 300 are under cultivation in a systematic rotation of crops.

Adrian College was established by the Wesleyan Methodists in 1859, now under the control of the Methodist Church. The grounds contain about 20 acres. There are four buildings, capable of accommodating about 225 students. Attendance in 1875 was 179; total number of graduates for previous year, 121; ten professors and teachers are employed. Exclusive of the endowment fund (\$80,000), the assets of the institution, including grounds, buildings, furniture, apparatus, musical instruments, outlying lands, etc., amount to more than \$137,000.

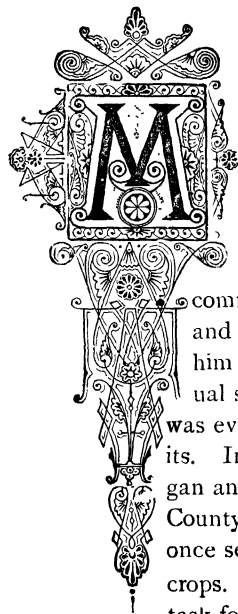
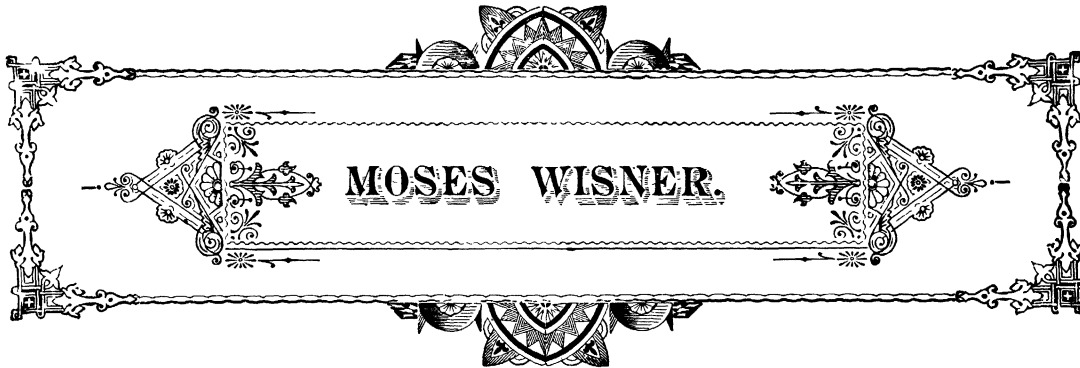
Hillsdale College was established in 1855 by the Free Baptists. The Michigan Central College, at Spring Arbor, was incorporated in 1845. It was kept in operation until it was merged into the present Hillsdale College. The site comprises 25 acres, beautifully situated on an eminence in the western part of the city of Hillsdale. The large and imposing building first erected was nearly destroyed by fire in 1874, and in its place five buildings of a more modern style have been erected. They are of brick, three stories with basement, arranged on three sides of a quadrangle. The size is, respectively, 80 by 80, 48 by 72, 48 by 72, 80 by 60, 52 by 72, and they contain one-half more room than the original building.

The State Reform School. This was established at Lansing in 1855, in the northeastern portion of the city, as the House of Correction for Juvenile Offenders, having about it many of the features of a prison. In 1859 the name was changed to the State Reform School. The government and discipline, have undergone many and radical changes, until all the prison features have been removed except those that remain in the walls of the original structure, and which remain only as monuments of instructive history. No bolts, bars or guards are employed. The inmates are necessarily kept under the surveillance of officers, but the attempts at escape are much fewer than under the more rigid *regime* of former days.





Moses Wisner



MOSES WISNER, Governor of Michigan from 1859 to 1861, was born in Springport, Cayuga Co., N. Y., June 3, 1815. His early education was only what could be obtained at a common school. Agricultural labor and frugality of his parents gave him a physical constitution of unusual strength and endurance, which was ever preserved by temperate habits. In 1837 he emigrated to Michigan and purchased a farm in Lapeer County. It was new land and he at once set to work to clear it and plant crops. He labored diligently at his task for two years, when he gave up

the idea of being a farmer, and removed to Pontiac, Oakland Co. Here he commenced the study of law in the office of his brother, George W. Wisner, and Rufus Hosmer. In 1841 he was admitted to the bar and established himself in his new vocation at the village of Lapeer. While there he was appointed by Gov. Woodbridge Prosecuting Attorney for that county, in which capacity he acquitted himself well and gave promise of that eminence he afterward attained in the profession. He remained at Lapeer but a short time, removing to Pontiac, where he became a member of a firm and entered fully upon the practice.

In politics he was like his talented brother, a Whig of the Henry Clay stamp, but with a decided anti-slavery bias. His practice becoming extensive, he

took little part in politics until after the election of Mr. Pierce to the Presidency in 1852, when he took an active part against slavery. As a lawyer he was a man of great ability, but relied less upon mere book learning than upon his native good sense. Liberal and courteous, was he yet devoted to the interest of his client, and no facts escaped his attention or his memory which bore upon the case. He was no friend of trickery or artifice in conducting a case. As an advocate he had few equals. When fully aroused by the merits of his subject his eloquence was at once graceful and powerful. His fancies supplied the most original, the most pointed illustrations, and his logic became a battling giant under whose heavy blows the adversary shrank and withered. Nature had bestowed upon him rare qualities, and his powers as a popular orator were of a high order.

On the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, repealing the Missouri compromise and opening the Territories to slavery, he was among the foremost in Michigan to denounce the shameful scheme. He actively participated in organizing and consolidating the elements opposed to it in that State, and was a member of the popular gathering at Jackson, in July, 1854, which was the first formal Republican Convention held in the United States. At this meeting the name "Republican" was adopted as a designation of the new party consisting of Anti-slavery, Whigs, Liberty men, Free Soil Democrats and all others opposed to the extension of slavery and favorable to its expulsion from the Territories and the District of Columbia. At this convention Mr. W. was urged to accept the nomination for Attorney General of the

State, but declined. An entire State ticket was nominated and at the annual election in November was elected by an average majority of nearly 10,000. Mr. W. was enthusiastic in the cause and brought to its support all his personal influence and talents. In his views he was bold and radical. He believed from the beginning that the political power of the slaveholders would have to be overthrown before quiet could be secured to the country. In the Presidential canvass of 1856 he supported the Fremont, or Republican, ticket. At the session of the Legislature of 1857 he was a candidate for United States Senator, and as such received a very handsome support.

In 1858, he was nominated for Governor of the State by the Republican convention that met at Detroit, and at the subsequent November election was chosen by a very large majority. Before the day of the election he had addressed the people of almost every county and his majority was greater even than that of his popular predecessor, Hon. K. S. Bingham. He served as Governor two years, from Jan. 1, 1859, to Jan. 1, 1861. His first message to the Legislature was an able and statesman-like production, and was read with usual favor. It showed that he was awake to all the interests of the State and set forth an enlightened State policy, that had its view of the rapid settlement of our uncultivated lands and the development of our immense agricultural and mineral resources. It was a document that reflected the highest credit upon the author.

His term having expired Jan. 1, 1861, he returned to his home in Pontiac, and to the practice of his profession. There were those in the State who counselled the sending of delegates to the peace conference at Washington, but Mr. W. was opposed to all such temporizing expedients. His counsel was to send no delegate, but to prepare to fight.

After Congress had met and passed the necessary legislation he resolved to take part in the war. In the spring and summer of 1862 he set to work to raise a regiment of infantry, chiefly in Oakland County, where he resided. His regiment, the 22d Michigan, was armed and equipped and ready to march in September, a regiment whose solid qualities were afterwards proven on many a bloody field. Col. W.'s commission bore the date of Sept. 8, 1862. Before parting with his family he made his will. His regiment was sent to Kentucky and quartered at

Camp Wallace. He had at the breaking out of the war turned his attention to military studies and became proficient in the ordinary rules and discipline. His entire attention was now devoted to his duties. His treatment of his men was kind, though his discipline was rigid. He possessed in an eminent degree the spirit of command, and had he lived he would no doubt have distinguished himself as a good officer. He was impatient of delay and chafed at being kept in Kentucky where there was so little prospect of getting at the enemy. But life in camp, so different from the one he had been leading, and his incessant labors, coupled with that impatience which was so natural and so general among the volunteers in the early part of the war, soon made their influence felt upon his health. He was seized with typhoid fever and removed to a private house near Lexington. Every care which medical skill or the hand of friendship could bestow was rendered him. In the delirious wanderings of his mind he was disciplining his men and urging them to be prepared for an encounter with the enemy, enlarging upon the justice of their cause and the necessity of their crushing the Rebellion. But the source of his most poignant grief was the prospect of not being able to come to a hand-to-hand encounter with the "chivalry." He was proud of his regiment, and felt that if it could find the enemy it would cover itself with glory,—a distinction it afterward obtained, but not until Col. W. was no more. The malady baffled all medical treatment, and on the 5th day of Jan., 1863, he breathed his last. His remains were removed to Michigan and interred in the cemetery at Pontiac, where they rest by the side of the brave Gen. Richardson, who received his mortal wound at the battle of Antietam. Col. W. was no adventurer, although he was doubtless ambitious of military renown and would have striven for it with characteristic energy. He went to the war to defend and uphold the principles he had so much at heart. Few men were more familiar than he with the causes and the underlying principles that led to the contest. He left a wife, who was a daughter of Gen. C. C. Hascall, of Flint, and four children to mourn his loss. Toward them he ever showed the tenderest regard. Next to his duty their love and welfare engrossed his thoughts. He was kind, generous and brave, and like thousands of others he sleeps the sleep of the martyr for his country.



James Ruby
Austin, Texas



AUSTIN BLAIR.



AUSTIN BLAIR, Governor of Michigan from Jan. 2, 1861, to Jan. 4, 1865, and known as the War Governor, is an illustration of the beneficent influence of republican institutions, having inherited neither fortune nor fame. He was born in a log cabin at Caroline, Tompkins Co., N. Y., Feb. 8, 1818. His ancestors came from Scotland in the time of George I, and for many generations followed the pursuit of agriculture. His father, George Blair, settled in Tompkins County in 1809, and felled the trees and erected the first cabin in the county. The last 60 of the four-score and four years of his life were spent on that spot. He married Rhoda Blackman, who now sleeps with him in the soil of the old homestead. The first 17 years of his life were spent there, rendering his father what aid he could upon the farm. He then spent a year and a half in Cazenovia Seminary preparing for college; entered Hamilton College, in Clinton, prosecuted his studies until the middle of the junior year, when, attracted by the fame of Dr. Nott, he changed to Union College, from which he graduated in the class of 1839. Upon leaving college Mr. Blair read law two years in the office of Sweet & Davis, Owego, N. Y., and was admitted to practice in 1841, and the same year moved to Michigan, locat-

ing in Jackson. During a temporary residence in Eaton Rapids, in 1842, he was elected Clerk of Eaton County. At the close of the official term he returned to Jackson, and as a Whig, zealously espoused the cause of Henry Clay in the campaign of 1844. He was chosen Representative to the Legislature in 1845, at which session, as a member of the Judiciary Committee, he rendered valuable service in the revision of the general statutes; also made an able report in favor of abolishing the color distinction in relation to the elective franchise, and at the same session was active in securing the abolition of capital punishment. In 1848 Mr. Blair refused longer to affiliate with the Whig party, because of its refusal to endorse in convention any anti-slavery sentiment. He joined the Free-soil movement, and was a delegate to their convention which nominated Van Buren for President that year. Upon the birth of the Republican party at Jackson, in 1854, by the coalition of the Whig and Free-soil elements, Mr. Blair was in full sympathy with the movement, and acted as a member of the Committee on Platform. He was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Jackson County in 1852; was chosen State Senator two years later, taking his seat with the incoming Republican administration of 1855, and holding the position of parliamentary leader in the Senate. He was a delegate to the National Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Mr. Blair was elected Governor of Michigan in 1860, and re-elected in 1862, faithfully and honorably discharging the arduous duties of the office during that most mo-

mentous and stormy period of the Nation's life. Gov. Blair possessed a clear comprehension of the perilous situation from the inception of the Rebellion, and his inaugural address foreshadowed the prompt executive policy and the administrative ability which characterized his gubernatorial career.

Never perhaps in the history of a nation has a brighter example been laid down, or a greater sacrifice been made, than that which distinguished Michigan during the civil war. All, from the "War Governor" down to the poorest citizen of the State, were animated with a patriotic ardor at once magnificently sublime and wisely directed.

Very early in 1861 the coming struggle cast its shadow over the Nation. Governor Blair, in his message to the Legislature in January of that year, dwelt very forcibly upon the sad prospects of civil war; and as forcibly pledged the State to support the principles of the Republic. After a review of the conditions of the State, he passed on to a consideration of the relations between the free and slave States of the Republic, saying: "While we are citizens of the State of Michigan, and as such deeply devoted to her interests and honor, we have a still prouder title. We are also citizens of the United States of America. By this title we are known among the nations of the earth. In remote quarters of the globe, where the names of the States are unknown, the flag of the great Republic, the banner of the stars and stripes, honor and protect her citizens. In whatever concerns the honor, the prosperity and the perpetuity of this great Government, we are deeply interested. The people of Michigan are loyal to that Government—faithful to its constitution and its laws. Under it they have had peace and prosperity; and under it they mean to abide to the end. Feeling a just pride in the glorious history of the past, they will not renounce the equally glorious hopes of the future. But they will rally around the standards of the Nation and defend its integrity and its constitution, with fidelity." The final paragraph being:

"I recommend you at an early day to make mani-

fest to the gentlemen who represent this State in the two Houses of Congress, and to the country, that Michigan is loyal to the Union, the Constitution, and the laws and will defend them to the uttermost; and to proffer to the President of the United States, the whole military power of the State for that purpose. Oh, for the firm, steady hand of a Washington, or a Jackson, to guide the ship of State in this perilous storm! Let us hope that we will find him on the 4th of March. Meantime, let us abide in the faith of our fathers—'Liberty and Union, one and inseparable, now and forever.'"

How this stirring appeal was responded to by the people of Michigan will be seen by the statement that the State furnished 88,111 men during the war. Money, men, clothing and food were freely and abundantly supplied by this State during all these years of darkness and blood shed. No State won a brighter record for her devotion to our country than the Peninsula State, and to Gov. Blair, more than to any other individual is due the credit for its untiring zeal and labors in the Nation's behalf, and for the heroism manifested in its defense.

Gov. Blair was elected Representative to the Fortieth Congress, and twice re-elected, to the Forty-first and Forty-second Congress, from the Third District of Michigan. While a member of that body he was a strong supporter of reconstruction measures, and sternly opposed every form of repudiation. His speech upon the national finances, delivered on the floor of the House March 21, 1868, was a clear and convincing argument. Since his retirement from Congress, Mr. Blair has been busily occupied with his extensive law practice. Mr. Blair married Sarah L. Ford, of Seneca County N. Y., in February, 1849. Their family consists of 4 sons—George H., a postal clerk in the railway mail service; Charles A., partner with his father; Fred. J. and Austin T., at home. Governor Blair's religion is of the broad type, and centers in the "Golden Rule." In 1883, Gov. Blair was nominated for Justice of the Supreme Court of the State by the Republican party, but was defeated.



Henry A. Crago



HENRY H. CRAPO.

HENRY HOWLAND CRAPO, Governor of Michigan from 1865 to 1869, was born May 24, 1804, at Dartmouth, Bristol Co., Mass., and died at Flint, Mich., July 22, 1869.

He was the eldest son of Jesse and Phœbe (Howland) Crapo. His father was of French descent and was very poor, sustaining his family by the cultivation of a farm in Dartmouth township, which yielded nothing beyond a mere livelihood.

His early life was consequently one of toil and devoid of advantages for intellectual culture, but his desire for an education seemed to know no bounds. The incessant toil for a mere subsistence upon a comparatively sterile farm, had no charm for him; and, longing for greater usefulness and better things, he looked for them in an education. His struggles to secure this end necessitated sacrifices and hardships that would have discouraged any but the most courageous and persevering. He became an ardent student and worker from his boyhood, though the means of carrying on his studies were exceedingly limited. He sorely felt the need of a dictionary; and, neither having money wherewith to purchase it, nor being able to procure one in his neighborhood, he set out to compile one for himself. In order to acquire a knowledge of the English language, he copied into a book every word whose meaning he did not comprehend, and upon meeting the same word again in the newspapers and books, which came into his hands, from the

context, would then record the definition. Whenever unable otherwise to obtain the signification of a word in which he had become interested he would walk from Dartmouth to New Bedford for that purpose alone, and after referring to the books at the library and satisfying himself thoroughly as to its definition, would walk back, a distance of about seven miles the same night. This was no unusual circumstance. Under such difficulties and in this manner he compiled quite an extensive dictionary in manuscript which is believed to be still in existence.

Ever in pursuit of knowledge, he obtained possession of a book upon surveying, and applying himself diligently to its study became familiar with this art, which he soon had an opportunity to practice. The services of a land surveyor were wanted, and he was called upon, but had no compass and no money with which to purchase one. A compass, however, he must and would have, and going to a blacksmith shop near at hand, upon the forge, with such tools as he could find in the shop, while the smith was at dinner, he constructed the compass and commenced life as a surveyor. Still continuing his studies, he fitted himself for teaching, and took charge of the village school at Dartmouth. When, in the course of time and under the pressure of law, a high school was to be opened, he passed a successful examination for its principalship and received the appointment. To do this was no small task. The law required a rigid examination in various subjects, which necessitated days and nights of study. One evening, after concluding his day's labor of teaching, he traveled on foot to New Bedford, some seven or eight miles, called upon the preceptor of Friend's Academy and passed

a severe examination. Receiving a certificate that he was qualified, he walked back to his home the same night, highly elated in being possessed of the acquirements and requirements of a master of the high school.

In 1832, at the age of 28 years, he left his native town and went to reside at New Bedford, where he followed the occupation of land surveyor, and occasionally acted as an auctioneer. Soon after becoming a citizen of this place, he was elected Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Collector of taxes, which office he held until the municipal government was changed,—about fifteen years,—when, upon the inauguration of the city government, he was elected Treasurer and Collector of taxes, a position which he held two or three years. He was also Justice of the Peace for many years. He was elected Alderman of New Bedford; was Chairman of Council Committee on Education, and as such prepared a report upon which was based the order for the establishment of the free Public Library of New Bedford. On its organization, Mr. Crapo was chosen a member of the Board of Trustees. This was the first free public library in Massachusetts, if not in the world. The Boston Free Library was established, however, soon afterwards. While a resident in New Bedford, he was much interested in horticulture, and to obtain the land necessary for carrying out his ideas he drained and reclaimed several acres of rocky and swampy land adjoining his garden. Here he started a nursery, which he filled with almost every description of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, flowers, etc. In this he was very successful and took great pride. He was a regular contributor to the *New England Horticultural Journal*, a position he filled as long as he lived in Massachusetts. As an indication of the wide reputation he acquired in that field of labor, it may be mentioned that after his death an affecting eulogy to his memory was pronounced by the President of the National Horticultural Society at its meeting in Philadelphia, in 1869. During his residence in New Bedford, Mr. Crapo was also engaged in the whaling business. A fine barque built at Dartmouth, of which he was part owner, was named the "H. H. Crapo" in compliment to him.

Mr. C. also took part in the State Militia, and for several years held a commission as Colonel of one of the regiments. He was President of the Bristol County Mutual Fire Insurance Co., and Secretary of the Bedford Commercial Insurance Company in New Bedford; and while an officer of the municipal government he compiled and published, between the years 1836 and 1845, five numbers of the *New Bedford Directory* the first work of the kind ever published there.

Mr. C. removed to Michigan in 1856, having been induced to do so by investments made principally in pine lands, first in 1837 and subsequently in 1856. He took up his residence in the city of Flint, and en-

gaged largely in the manufacture and sale of lumber at Flint, Fentonville, Holly and Detroit, becoming one of the largest and most successful business men of the State. He was mainly instrumental in the construction of the Flint & Holly R. R., and was President of that corporation until its consolidation with the Flint & Pere Marquette R. R. Company. He was elected Mayor of that city after he had been a resident of the place only five or six years. In 1862 he was elected State Senator. In the fall of 1864 he received the nomination on the Republican ticket for Governor of the State, and was elected by a large majority. He was re-elected in 1866, holding the office two terms, and retiring in January, 1869, having given the greatest satisfaction to all parties.

While serving his last term he was attacked with a disease which terminated his life within one year afterwards. During much of this time he was an intense sufferer, yet often while in great pain gave his attention to public matters. A few weeks previous to his death a successful surgical operation was performed which seemed rapidly to restore him, but he overestimated his strength, and by too much exertion in business matters and State affairs suffered a relapse from which there was no rebound, and he died July 33, 1869.

In the early part of his life, Gov. Crapo affiliated with the Whig party in politics, but became an active member of the Republican party after its organization. He was a member of the Christian (sometimes called the Disciples') Church, and took great interest in its welfare and prosperity.

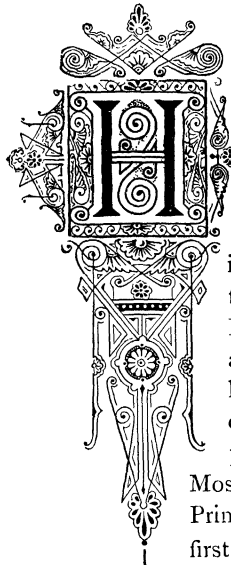
Mr. C. married, June 9, 1825, Mary A. Slocum, of Dartmouth. His marriage took place soon after he had attained his majority, and before his struggles with fortune had been rewarded with any great measure of success. But his wife was a woman of great strength of character and possessed of courage, hopefulness and devotion, qualities which sustained and encouraged her husband in the various pursuits of his early years. For several years after his marriage he was engaged in teaching school, his wife living with her parents at the time, at whose home his two older children were born. While thus situated he was accustomed to walk home on Saturday to see his family, returning on Sunday in order to be ready for school Monday morning. As the walk for a good part of the time was 20 miles each way, it is evident that at that period of his life no common obstacles deterred him from performing what he regarded as a duty. His wife was none the less conscientious in her sphere, and with added responsibilities and increasing requirements she labored faithfully in the performance of all her duties. They had ten children, one son and nine daughters. His son, Hon. Wm. W. Crapo, of New Bedford, is now an honored Representative to Congress from the First Congressional District of Massachusetts.



Henry P. Baldwin



HENRY P. BALDWIN.



HENRY P. BALDWIN, Governor of Michigan from Jan. 4, 1869, to Jan. 1, 1873, is a lineal descendant of Nathaniel Baldwin, a Puritan, of Buckinghamshire, England, who settled at Milford, Conn., in 1639. His father was John Baldwin, a graduate of Dartmouth College. He died at North Providence, R. I., in 1826. His paternal grandfather was Rev. Moses Baldwin, a graduate of Princeton College, in 1757, and the first who received collegiate hon-

ors at that ancient and honored institution. He died at Parma, Mass., in 1813, where for more than 50 years he had been pastor of the Presbyterian Church. On his mother's side Governor B. is descended from Robert Williams, also a Puritan, who settled in Roxbury, Mass., about 1638. His mother was a daughter of Rev. Nehemiah Williams, a graduate of Harvard College, who died at Brimfield, Mass., in 1796, where for 21 years he was pastor of the Congregationalist Church. The subject of this sketch was born at Coventry, R. I., Feb. 22, 1814. He received a New England common-school education until the age of 12 years, when, both his parents having died, he became a clerk in a mercantile establishment. He remained there, employing his leisure hours in study, until 20 years of age.

At this early period Mr. B. engaged in business on his own account. He made a visit to the West, in 1837, which resulted in his removal to Detroit in the spring of 1838. Here he established a mercantile house which has been successfully conducted until the present time. Although he successfully conducted

a large business, he has ever taken a deep interest in all things affecting the prosperity of the city and State of his adoption. He was for several years a Director and President of the Detroit Young Men's Society, an institution with a large library designed for the benefit of young men and citizens generally. An Episcopalian in religious belief, he has been prominent in home matters connected with that denomination. The large and flourishing parish of St. John, Detroit, originated with Governor Baldwin, who gave the lot on which the parish edifice stands, and also contributed the larger share of the cost of their erection. Governor B. was one of the foremost in the establishment of St. Luke's Hospital, and has always been a liberal contributor to moral and religious enterprises whether connected with his own Church or not. There have been, in fact, but few public and social improvements of Detroit during the past 40 years with which Governor B.'s name is not in some way connected. He was a director in the Michigan State Bank until the expiration of its charter, and has been President of the Second National Bank since its organization.

In 1860, Mr. Baldwin was elected to the State Senate, of Michigan; during the years of 1861-'2 he was made Chairman of the Finance Committee, a member of Committee on Banks and Incorporations. Chairman of the Select Joint Committee of the two Houses for the investigation of the Treasury Department and the official acts of the Treasurer, and of the letting of the contract for the improvement of Sault St. Marie Ship Canal. He was first elected Governor in 1868 and was re-elected in 1870, serving from 1869 to 1872, inclusive. It is no undeserved eulogy to say that Governor B.'s happy faculty of estimating the necessary means to an end—the knowing of how much effort or attention to bestow upon the thing in hand, has been the secret of the uniform

success that has attended his efforts in all relations of life. The same industry and accuracy that distinguished him prior to this term as Governor was manifest in his career as the chief magistrate of the State, and while his influence appears in all things with which he has had to do, it is more noticeable in the most prominent position to which he was called. With rare exceptions the important commendations of Governor B. received the sanction of the Legislature. During his administration marked improvements were made in the charitable, penal and reformatory institutions of the State. The State Public School for dependent children was founded and a permanent commission for the supervision of the several State institutions. The initiatory steps toward building the Eastern Asylum for the Insane, the State House of Correction, and the establishment of the State Board of Health were recommended by Governor B. in his message of 1873. The new State Capitol also owes its origin to him. The appropriation for its erection was made upon his recommendation, and the contract for the entire work let under this administration. Governor B. also appointed the commissioners under whose faithful supervision the building was erected in a manner most satisfactory to the people of the State.

He advised and earnestly urged at different times such amendments of the constitution as would permit a more equitable compensation to State officers and judges. The law of 1869, and prior also, permitting municipalities to vote aid toward the construction of railroads was, in 1870, declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. Many of the municipalities having in the meantime issued and sold their bonds in good faith, Governor B. felt that the honor and credit of the State were in jeopardy. His sense of justice impelled him to call an extra session of the Legislature to propose the submission to the people a constitutional amendment, authorizing the payment of such bonds as were already in the hands of *bona-fide* holders. In his special message he says: "The credit of no State stands higher than that of Michigan, and the people can not afford, and I trust will not consent, to have her good name tarnished by the repudiation of either legal or moral obligations." A special session was called in March, 1872, principally for the division of the State into congressional districts. A number of other important suggestions were made, however, and as an evidence of the Governor's laborious and thoughtful care for the financial condition

of the State, a series of tables was prepared and submitted by him showing, in detail, estimates of receipts, expenditures and appropriations for the years 1872 to 1878, inclusive. Memorable of Governor B.'s administration were the devastating fires which swept over many portions of the Northwest in the fall of 1871. A large part of the city of Chicago having been reduced to ashes, Governor B. promptly issued a proclamation calling upon the people of Michigan for liberal aid in behalf of the afflicted city. Scarcely had this been issued when several counties in his State were laid waste by the same destroying element. A second call was made asking assistance for the suffering people of Michigan. The contributions for these objects were prompt and most liberal, more than \$700,000 having been received in money and supplies for the relief of Michigan alone. So ample were these contributions during the short period of about 3 months, that the Governor issued a proclamation expressing in behalf of the people of the State grateful acknowledgment, and announcing that further aid was unnecessary.

Governor B. has traveled extensively in his own country and has also made several visits to Europe and other portions of the Old World. He was a passenger on the Steamer Arill, which was captured and bonded in the Carribean Sea, in December, 1862, by Capt. Semmes, and wrote a full and interesting account of the transaction. The following estimate of Governor B. on his retirement from office, by a leading newspaper, is not overdrawn: "The retiring message of Governor B., will be read with interest. It is a characteristic document and possesses the lucid statement, strong, and clear practical sense, which have been marked features of all preceding documents from the same source. Governor B. retired to private life after four years of unusually successful administration amid plaudits that are universal throughout the State. For many years eminent and capable men have filled the executive chair of this State, but in painstaking vigilance, in stern good sense, in genuine public spirit, in thorough integrity and in practical capacity, Henry P. Baldwin has shown himself to be the peer of any or all of them. The State has been unusually prosperous during his two terms, and the State administration has fully kept pace with the needs of the times. The retiring Governor has fully earned the public gratitude and confidence which he to-day possesses to such remarkable degree."



Mr. J. Bagley



JOHNSON BAGLEY, Governor of Michigan from 1873 to 1877, was born in Medina, Orleans Co., N. Y., July 24, 1832. His father, John Bagley, was a native of New Hampshire, his mother, Mary M. Bagley, of Connecticut. He attended the district school of Lockport, N. Y., until he was eight years old, at which time his father moved to Constantine, Mich., and he attended the common schools of that village. His early experience was like that of many country boys whose parents removed from Eastern States to the newer portion of the West. His father being in very poor circumstances, Mr. B. was obliged to work as soon as he was able to do so. Leaving school when 13 years of age he entered a country store in Constantine as clerk. His father then removed to Owosso, Mich., and he again engaged as clerk in a store. From early youth Mr. B. was extravagantly fond of reading and devoted every leisure moment to the perusal of such books, papers and periodicals as came within his reach. In 1847, he removed to Detroit, where he secured employment in a tobacco manufactory and remained in this position for about five years.

In 1853, he began business for himself in the manufacturing of tobacco. His establishment has become

one of the largest of the kind in the West. Mr. B. has also been greatly interested in other manufacturing enterprises, as well as in mining, banking and insurance corporations. He was President of the Detroit Safe Company for several years. He was one of the organizers of the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company of Detroit, and was its President from 1867 to 1872. He was a director of the American National Bank for many years, and a stockholder and director in various other corporations. Mr. B. was a member of the Board of Education two years, and of the Detroit Common Council the same length of time. In 1865 he was appointed by Governor Crapo one of the first commissioners of the Metropolitan police force of the city of Detroit, serving six years. In November, 1872, he was elected Governor of Michigan, and two years later was re-elected to the same office, retiring in January, 1877. He was an active worker in the Republican party, and for many years was Chairman of the Republican State Central committee.

Governor Bagley was quite liberal in his religious views and was an attendant of the Unitarian Church. He aimed to be able to hear and consider any new thought, from whatever source it may come, but was not bound by any religious creed or formula. He held in respect all religious opinions, believing that no one can be injured by a firm adherence to a faith or denomination. He was married at Dubuque, Iowa, Jan. 16, 1855, to Frances E. Newberry, daughter of Rev. Samuel Newberry, a pioneer missionary of Michigan, who took an active part in the early educational matters of the State and in the establishment of its excellent system of education. It was principally

through his exertions that the State University was founded. Mr. B.'s family consists of seven children.

As Governor his administration was characterized by several important features, chief among which were his efforts to improve and make popular the educational agencies of the State by increasing the faculty of the University for more thorough instruction in technical studies, by strengthening the hold of the Agricultural College upon the public good will and making the general change which has manifested itself in many scattered primary districts. Among others were an almost complete revolution in the management of the penal and charitable institutions of the State; the passage of the liquor-tax law, taking the place of the dead letter of prohibition; the establishing of the system of dealing with juvenile offenders through county agents, which has proved of great good in turning the young back from crime and placing the State in the attitude of a moral agent; in securing for the militia the first time in the history of Michigan a systematized organization upon a serviceable footing. It was upon the suggestion of Gov. B. in the earlier part of his administration that the law creating the State Board of Health, and also the law creating a fish commission in the inland waters of the State, were passed, both of which have proved of great benefit to the State. The successful representation of Michigan at the Centennial Exhibition is also an honorable part of the record of Gov. B.'s administration.

As Governor, he felt that he represented the State—not in a narrow, egotistical way, but in the same sense that a faithful, trusted, confidential agent represents his employer, and as the Executive of the State he was her "attorney in fact." And his intelligent, thoughtful care will long continue the pride of the people he so much loved. He was ambitious—ambitious for place and power, as every noble mind is ambitious, because these give opportunity. However strong the mind and powerful the will, if there be no ambition, life is a failure. He was not blind to the fact that the more we have the more is required of us. He accepted it in its fullest meaning. He had great hopes for his State and his country. He had his ideas of what they should be. With a heart as broad as humanity itself; with an intelligent, able and cultured brain, the will and the power to do, he asked his fellow citizen to give him the opportunity to labor for them. Self entered not into the calculation.

His whole life was a battle for others; and he entered the conflict eagerly and hopefully.

His State papers were models of compact, business-like statements, bold, original, and brimful of practical suggestions, and his administrations will long be considered as among the ablest in this or any other State.

His noble, generous nature made his innumerable benefactions a source of continuous pleasure. Literally, to him it was "more blessed to give than to receive."

His greatest enjoyment was in witnessing the comfort and happiness of others. Not a tithe of his charities were known to his most intimate friends, or even to his family. Many a needy one has been the recipient of aid at an opportune moment, who never knew the hand that gave.

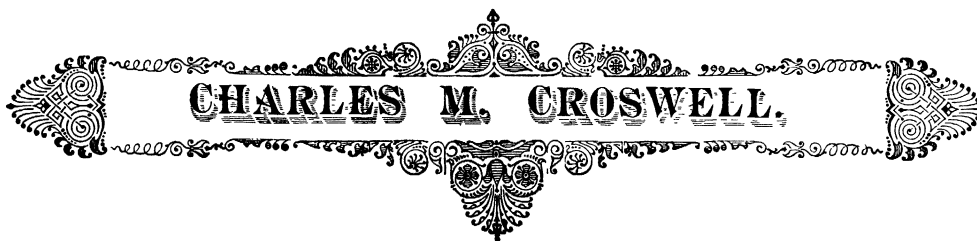
At one time a friend had witnessed his ready response to some charitable request, and said to him: "Governor, you give away a large sum of money; about how much does your charities amount to in a year?" He turned at once and said: "I do not know, sir; I do not allow myself to know. I hope I gave more this year than I did last, and hope I shall give more next year than I have this." This expressed his idea of charity, that the giving should at all times be free and spontaneous.

During his leisure hours from early life, and especially during the last few years, he devoted much time to becoming acquainted with the best authors. Biography was his delight; the last he read was the "Life and Work of John Adams," in ten volumes.

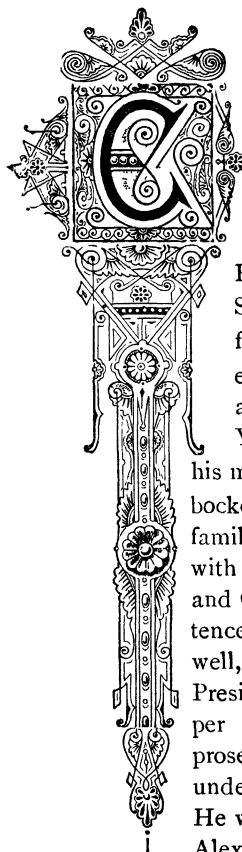
In all questions of business or public affairs he seemed to have the power of getting at the kernel of the nut in the least possible time. In reading he would spend scarcely more time with a volume than most persons would devote to a chapter. After what seemed a cursory glance, he would have all of the value the book contained. Rarely do we see a business man so familiar with the best English authors. He was a generous and intelligent patron of the arts, and his elegant home was a study and a pleasure to his many friends, who always found there a hearty welcome. At Christmas time he would spend days doing the work of Santa Claus. Every Christmas eve he gathered his children about him and, taking the youngest on his lap, told some Christmas story, closing the entertainment with "The Night Before Christmas," or Dickens's "Christmas Carol."



Yours very truly
Charles M. Frazar



CHARLES M. CROSWELL.



CHARLES M. CROSWELL, Governor of Michigan from Jan. 3, 1877 to Jan. 1, 1881, was born at Newburg, Orange County, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1825. He is the only son of John and Sallie (Hicks) Croswell. His father, who was of Scotch-Irish extraction, was a paper-maker, and carried on business in New York City. His ancestors on his mother's side were of Knickerbocker descent. The Croswell family may be found connected with prominent events, in New York and Connecticut, in the early existence of the Republic. Harry Croswell, during the administration of President Jefferson, published a paper called the *Balance*, and was prosecuted for libeling the President under the obnoxious Sedition Law. He was defended by the celebrated Alexander Hamilton, and the decision

of the case established the important ruling that the truth might be shown in cases of libel. Another member of the family was Edwin Croswell, the famous editor of the *Albany Argus*; also, Rev. William Croswell, noted as a divine and poet.

When Charles M. Croswell was seven years of age, his father was accidentally drowned in the Hudson River, at Newburg; and, within three months preceding that event, his mother and only sister had died,—thus leaving him the sole surviving member of the family, without fortune or means. Upon the death

of his father he went to live with an uncle, who, in 1837, emigrated with him to Adrian, Michigan. At sixteen years of age, he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, and worked at it very diligently for four years, maintaining himself, and devoting his spare time to reading and the acquirement of knowledge. In 1846, he began the study of law, and was appointed Deputy Clerk of Lenawee County. The duties of this office he performed four years, when he was elected Register of Deeds, and was re-elected in 1852. In 1854, he took part in the first movements for the formation of the Republican party, and was a member and Secretary of the convention held at Jackson in that year, which put in the field the first Republican State ticket in Michigan. In 1855, he formed a law partnership with the present Chief-Justice Cooley, which continued until the removal of Judge Cooley to Ann Arbor.

In 1862, Mr. Croswell was appointed City Attorney of Adrian. He was also elected Mayor of the city in the spring of the same year; and in the fall was chosen to represent Lenawee County in the State Senate. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1864, and again in 1866, during each term filling the positions above mentioned. Among various reports made by him, one adverse to the re-establishment of the death penalty, and another against a proposition to pay the salaries of State officers and judges in coin, which then commanded a very large premium, may be mentioned. He also drafted the act ratifying the Thirteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, for the abolishment of slavery, it being the first amendment to the instrument ratified by Michigan. In 1863, from his seat in the State Senate, he delivered an elaborate speech in favor of the Proclama-

tion of Emancipation issued by President Lincoln, and of his general policy in the prosecution of the war. This, at the request of his Republican associates, was afterwards published. In 1867, he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and chosen its presiding officer. This convention was composed of an able body of men; and though, in the general distrust of constitutional changes which for some years had been taking possession of the people, their labors were not accepted by the popular vote, it was always conceded that the constitution they proposed had been prepared with great care and skill.

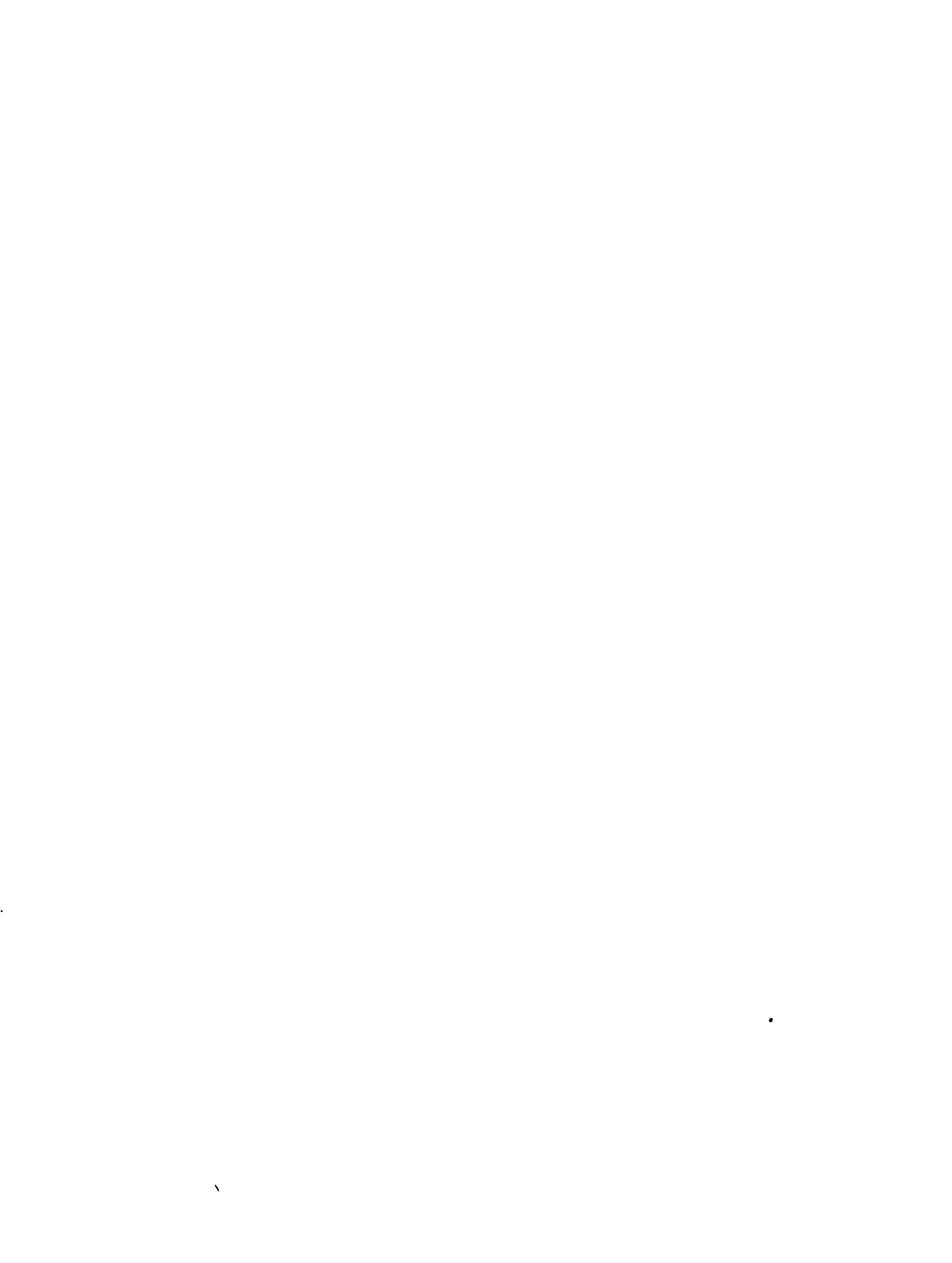
In 1868, Mr. Croswell was chosen an Elector on the Republican Presidential ticket; in 1872, was elected a Representative to the State Legislature from Lenawee County, and was chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives. At the close of the session of that body his abilities as a parliamentarian, and the fairness of his rulings were freely and formally acknowledged by his associates; and he was presented with a superb collection of their portraits handsomely framed. He was, also, for several years, Secretary of the State Board for the general supervision of the charitable and penal institutions of Michigan; in which position, his propositions for the amelioration of the condition of the unfortunate, and the reformation of the criminal classes, signalize the benevolence of his nature, and the practical character of his mind.

In 1876, the general voice of the Republicans of the State indicted Mr. Croswell as their choice for Governor; and, at the State Convention of the party in August of the same year, he was put in nomination by acclamation, without the formality of a ballot. At the election in November following, he was chosen to the high position for which he had been nominated, by a very large majority over all opposing candidates. His inaugural message was received with general favor; and his career as Governor was marked with the same qualities of head and heart that have ever distinguished him, both as a citizen and statesman.

Governor Croswell has always prepared his addresses with care; and, as his diction is terse, clear, and strong, without excess of ornament, and his delivery impressive, he is a popular speaker; and many of his speeches have attracted favorable comment in the public prints, and have a permanent value. He has always manifested a deep interest in educational matters, and was for years a member and Secretary of the Board of Education of Adrian. At the formal opening of the Central School building in that city, on the 24th day of April, 1869, he gave, in a public address, an "Historical Sketch of the Adrian Public Schools."

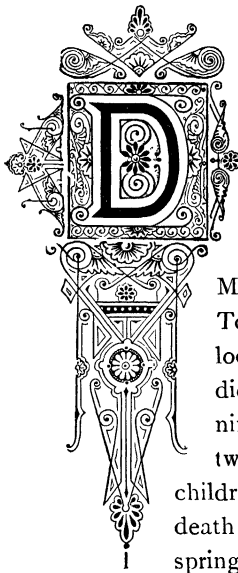
In his private life, Governor Croswell has been as exemplary as in his public career he has been successful and useful. In February, 1852, he was married to a daughter of Morton Eddy, Lucy M. Eddy, a lady of many amiable and sunny qualities. She suddenly died, March 19, 1868, leaving two daughters and a son. Governor Croswell is not a member of any religious body, but generally attends the Presbyterian Church. He pursues the profession of law, but of late has been occupied mainly in the care of his own interests, and the quiet duties of advice in business difficulties, for which his unflinching prudence and sound judgment eminently fit him. Governor Croswell is truly popular, not only with those of like political faith with himself, but with those who differ from him in this regard.

During Gov. Croswell's administration the public debt was greatly reduced; a policy adopted requiring the State institutions to keep within the limit of appropriations; laws enacted to provide more effectually for the punishment of corruption and bribery in elections; the State House of Correction at Ionia and the Eastern Asylum for the Insane at Pontiac were opened and the new capital at Lansing was completed and occupied. The first act of his second term was to preside at the dedication of this building. The great riot at Jackson occurred during his administration, and it was only by his promptness that great destruction of both life and property was prevented at that time.





David A. Groves



DAVID H. JEROME, Governor of from Jan. 1, 1881, to Jan. 1, 1883, was born at Detroit, Mich., Nov. 17, 1829. His parents emigrated to Michigan from Trumansburg, Tompkins Co., N. Y., in 1828, locating at Detroit. His father died March 30, 1831, leaving nine children. He had been twice married, and four of the children living at the time of his death were grown up sons, the offspring of his first union. Of the five children by his second marriage, David H. was the youngest. Shortly after Mr. Jerome's death, his widow moved back to New York and settled in Onondaga County near Syracuse, where they remained until the fall of 1834, the four sons by the first wife continuing their residence in Michigan. In the fall of 1834, Mrs. Jerome came once more to Michigan, locating on a farm in St. Clair County. Here the Governor formed those habits of industry and sterling integrity that have been so characteristic of the man in the active duties of life. He was sent to the district school, and in the acquisition of the fundamental branches of learning he displayed a precocity and an application which won for him the admiration of his teachers, and always placed him at the head of his classes. In the meantime he did chores on the farm, and was always ready with a cheerful heart and willing hand to assist his widowed mother. The heavy labor of the farm was carried on by his two

older brothers, Timothy and George, and when 13 years of age David received his mother's permission to attend school at the St. Clair Academy. While attending there he lived with Marcus H. Miles, now deceased, doing chores for his board, and the following winter performed the same service for James Ogden, also deceased. The next summer Mrs. Jerome moved into the village of St. Clair, for the purpose of continuing her son in school. While attending said academy one of his associate students was Senator Thomas W. Palmer, of Detroit, a rival candidate before the gubernatorial convention in 1880. He completed his education in the fall of his 16th year, and the following winter assisted his brother Timothy in hauling logs in the pine woods. The next summer he rafted logs down the St. Clair River to Algonac.

In 1847, M. H. Miles being Clerk in St. Clair County, and Volney A. Ripley Register of Deeds, David H. Jerome was appointed Deputy to each, remaining as such during 1848-'49, and receiving much praise from his employers and the people in general for the ability displayed in the discharge of his duties. He spent his summer vacation at clerical work on board the lake vessels.

In 1849-'50, he abandoned office work, and for the proper development of his physical system spent several months hauling logs. In the spring of 1850, his brother "Tiff" and himself chartered the steamer "Chautauqua," and "Young Dave" became her master. A portion of the season the boat was engaged in the passenger and freight traffic between Port Huron and Detroit, but during the latter part was used as a tow boat. At that time there was a serious obstruction to navigation, known as the "St. Clair Flats," between Lakes Huron and Erie, over which

vessels could carry only about 10,000 bushels of grain. Mr. Jerome conceived the idea of towing vessels from one lake to the other, and put his plan into operation. Through the influence of practical men,—among them the subject of this sketch,—Congress removed the obstruction above referred to, and now vessels can pass them laden with 60,000 or 80,000 bushels of grain.

During the season, the two brothers succeeded in making a neat little sum of money by the summer's work, but subsequently lost it all on a contract to raise the "Gen. Scott," a vessel that had sunk in Lake St. Clair. David H. came out free from debt, but possessed of hardly a dollar of capital. In the spring of 1851, he was clerk and acting master of the steamers "Franklin Moore" and "Ruby," plying between Detroit and Port Huron and Goderich. The following year he was clerk of the propeller "Princeton," running between Detroit and Buffalo.

In January, 1853, Mr. Jerome went to California, by way of the Isthmus, and enjoyed extraordinary success in selling goods in a new place of his selection, among the mountains near Marysville. He remained there during the summer, and located the Live Yankee Tunnel Mine, which has since yielded millions to its owners, and is still a paying investment. He planned and put a tunnel 600 feet into the mine, but when the water supply began to fail with the dry season, sold out his interest. He left in the fall of 1853, and in December sailed from San Francisco for New York, arriving at his home in St. Clair County, about a year after his departure. During his absence his brother "Tiff" had located at Saginaw, and in 1854 Mr. Jerome joined him in his lumber operations in the valley. In 1855 the brothers bought Blackmer & Eaton's hardware and general supply stores, at Saginaw, and David H. assumed the management of the business. From 1855 to 1873 he was also extensively engaged in lumbering operations.

Soon after locating at Saginaw he was nominated for Alderman against Stewart B. Williams, a rising young man, of strong Democratic principles. The ward was largely Democratic, but Mr. Jerome was elected by a handsome majority. When the Republican party was born at Jackson, Mich., David H. Jerome was, though not a delegate to the convention, one of its "charter members." In 1862, he was commissioned by Gov. Austin Blair to raise one of the

six regiments apportioned to the State of Michigan. Mr. Jerome immediately went to work and held meetings at various points. The zeal and enthusiasm displayed by this advocate of the Union awakened a feeling of patriotic interest in the breasts of many brave men, and in a short space of time the 23d Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry was placed in the field, and subsequently gained for itself a brilliant record.

In the fall of 1862, Mr. Jerome was nominated by the Republican party for State Senator from the 26th district, Appleton Stevens, of Bay City, being his opponent. The contest was very exciting, and resulted in the triumphant election of Mr. Jerome. He was twice renominated and elected both times by increased majorities, defeating George Lord, of Bay City, and Dr. Cheseman, of Gratiot County. On taking his seat in the Senate, he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on State Affairs, and was active in raising means and troops to carry on the war. He held the same position during his three terms of service, and introduced the bill creating the Soldiers' Home at Harper Hospital, Detroit.

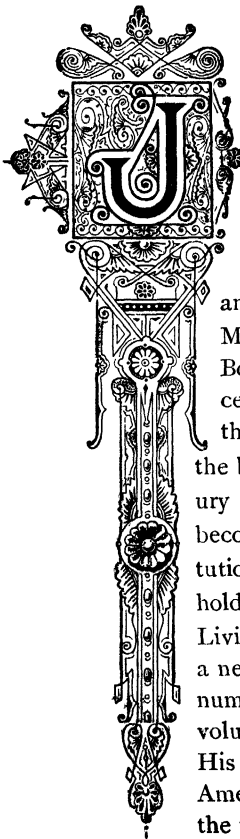
He was selected by Gov. Crapo as a military aid, and in 1865 was appointed a member of the State Military Board, and served as its President for eight consecutive years. In 1873, he was appointed by Gov. Bagley a member of the convention to prepare a new State Constitution, and was Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

In 1875, Mr. Jerome was appointed a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners. In 1876 he was Chairman of a commission to visit Chief Joseph, the Nez Perce Indian, to arrange an amicable settlement of all existing difficulties. The commission went to Portland, Oregon, thence to the Blue Hills, in Idaho, a distance of 600 miles up the Columbia River.

At the Republican State Convention, convened at Jackson in August, 1880, Mr. Jerome was placed in the field for nomination, and on the 5th day of the month received the highest honor the convention could confer on any one. His opponent was Frederick M. Holloway, of Hillsdale County, who was supported by the Democratic and Greenback parties. The State was thoroughly canvassed by both parties, and when the polls were closed on the evening of election day, it was found that David H. Jerome had been selected by the voters of the Wolverine State to occupy the highest position within their gift.



Josiah W Bigole



OSIAH W. BEGOLE, the present (1883), Governor of Michigan was born in Livingston, County, N. Y., Jan. 20, 1815. His ancestors were of French descent, and settled at an early period in the State of Maryland. His grandfather, Capt. Bolles, of that State, was an officer in the American army during the war of the Revolution. About the beginning of the present century both his grandparents, having become dissatisfied with the institution of slavery, although slaveholders themselves, emigrated to Livingston County, N. Y., then a new country, taking with them a number of their former slaves, who volunteered to accompany them. His father was an officer in the American army, and served during the war of 1812.

Mr. B. received his early education in a log school-house, and subsequently attended the Temple Hill Academy, at Geneseo, N. Y. Being the eldest of a family of ten children, whose parents were in moderate though comfortable circumstances, he was early taught habits of industry, and when 21 years of age, being ambitious to better his condition in life, he resolved to seek his fortune in the far West, as it was

then called. In August, 1836, he left the parental roof to seek a home in the Territory of Michigan, then an almost unbroken wilderness. He settled in Genesee County, and aided with his own hands in building some of the early residences in what is now known as the city of Flint. There were but four or five houses where this flourishing city now stands when he selected it as his home.

In the spring of 1839 he married Miss Harriet A. Miles. The marriage proved a most fortunate one, and to the faithful wife of his youth, who lives to enjoy with him the comforts of an honestly earned competence, Mr. Begole ascribes largely his success in life. Immediately after his marriage he commenced work on an unimproved farm, where, by his perseverance and energy, he soon established a good home, and at the end of eighteen years was the owner of a well improved farm of five hundred acres.

Mr. Begole being an anti-slavery man, became a member of the Republican party at its organization. He served his townsmen in various offices, and was, in 1856, elected County Treasurer, which office he held for eight years.

At the breaking out of the Rebellion he did not carry a musket to the front, but his many friends will bear witness that he took an active part in recruiting and furnishing supplies for the army, and in looking after the interests of soldiers' families at home. The death of his eldest son near Atlanta, Ga., by a Confederate bullet, in 1864, was the greatest sorrow of his life. When a few years later he was a member in Congress

Gov. Begole voted and worked for the soldiers' bounty equalization bill, an act doing justice to the soldier who bore the burden and heat of the day, and who should fare equally with him who came in at the eleventh hour. That bill was defeated in the House on account of the large appropriation that would be required to pay the same.

In 1870, Gov. Begole was nominated by acclamation for the office of State Senator, and elected by a large majority. In that body he served on the Committees of Finance and Railroads, and was Chairman of the Committee on the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind. He took a liberal and public-spirited view of the importance of a new capitol building worthy of the State, and was an active member of the Committee that drafted the bill for the same. He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention held at Philadelphia in 1872, and was the chosen member of that delegation to go to Washington and inform Gen. Grant and Senator Wilson of their nominations. It was while at that convention that, by the express wish of his many friends, he was induced to offer himself a candidate for the nomination of member to the 43d Congress, in which he was successful, after competing for the nomination with several of the most worthy, able and experienced men in the Sixth Congressional District, and was elected by a very large majority. In Congress, he was a member of the Committee on Agricultural and Public Expenditures. Being one of the 17 farmers in that Congress, he took an active part in the Committee of Agriculture, and was appointed by that committee to draft the most important report made by that committee, and upon the only subject recommended by the President in his message, which he did and the report was printed in records of Congress; he took an efficient though an unobtrusive part in all its proceedings.

He voted for the currency bill, remonetization of silver, and other financial measures, many of which, though defeated then, have since become the settled policy of the country. Owing to the position which Mr. Begole occupied on these questions, he became a "Greenbacker."

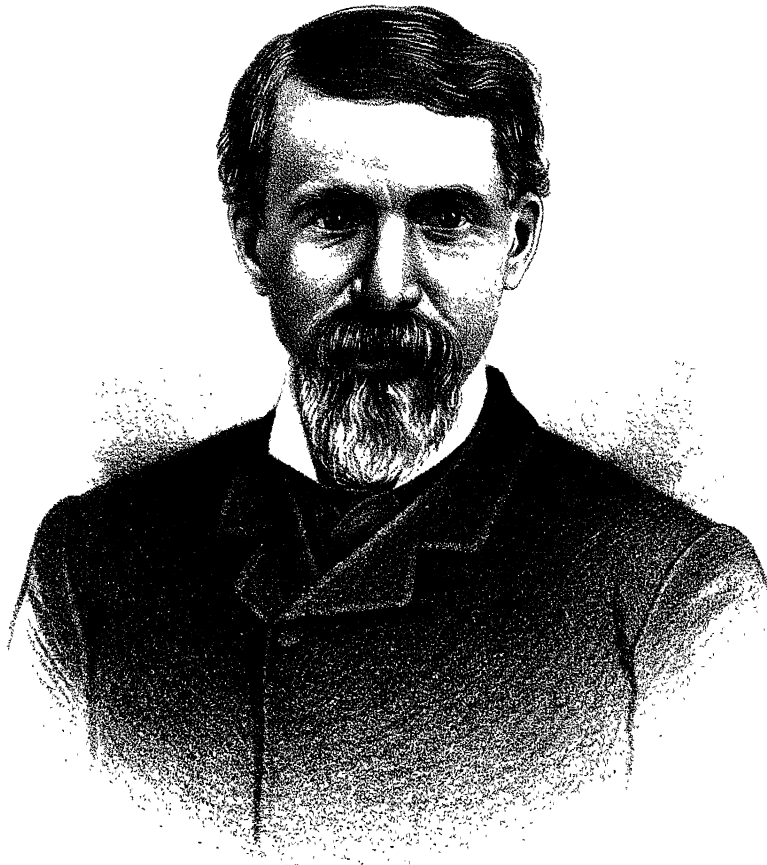
In the Gubernatorial election of 1882, Mr. Begole was the candidate of both the Greenback and Democratic parties, and was elected by a vote of 154,269, the Republican candidate, Hon. David H. Jerome,

receiving 149,697 votes. Mr. Begole, in entering upon his duties as Governor, has manifested a spirit that has already won him many friends, and bids fair to make his administration both successful and popular.

The very best indications of what a man is, is what his own townsmen think of him. We give the following extract from the *Flint Globe*, the leading Republican paper in Gov. Begole's own county, and it, too, written during the heat of a political campaign, which certainly is a flattering testimonial of his sterling worth:

"So far, however, as Mr. Begole, the head of the ticket, is concerned, there is nothing detrimental to his character that can be alleged against him. He has sometimes changed his mind in politics, but for sincerity of his beliefs and the earnestness of his purpose nobody who knows him entertains a doubt. He is incapable of bearing malice, even against his bitterest political enemies. He has a warm, generous nature, and a larger, kinder heart does not beat in the bosom of any man in Michigan. He is not much given to making speeches, but deeds are more significant of a man's character than words. There are many scores of men in all parts of the State where Mr. Begole is acquainted, who have had practical demonstrations of these facts, and who are liable to step outside of party lines to show that they do not forget his kindness, and who, no doubt, wish that he was a leader in what would not necessarily prove a forlorn hope. But the Republican party in Michigan is too strong to be beaten by a combination of Democrats and Greenbackers, even if it is marshaled by so good a man as Mr. Begole."

This sketch would be imperfect without referring to the action of Mr. B. at the time of the great calamity that in 1881 overtook the people of Northeastern Michigan, in a few hours desolating whole counties by fire and destroying the results and accumulations of such hard work as only falls to the lot of pioneers. While the Port Huron and Detroit committees were quarreling over the distribution of funds, Mr. Begole wrote to an agent in the "burnt district" a letter, from which we make an extract of but a single sentence: "Until the differences between the two committees are adjusted and you receive your regular supplies from them, draw on me. Let no man suffer while I have money." This displays his true character.



Russell A. Alger



RUSSELL A. ALGER, Governor of Michigan for the term commencing Jan. 1, 1885, was born in Lafayette Township, Medina Co., Ohio, Feb. 27, 1836. Having lived a temperate life, he is a comparative young man in appearance, and possesses those mental faculties that are the distinguishing characteristics of robust, mature and educated manhood. When 11 years of age both his parents died, leaving him with a younger brother and sister to support and without any of the substantial means of existence.

Lacking the opportunity of better employment, he worked on a farm in Richfield, Ohio, for the greater part of each of the succeeding seven years, saving money enough to defray his expenses at Richfield Academy during the winter terms. He obtained a very good English education, and was enabled to teach school for several subsequent winters. In 1857 he commenced the study of law in the offices of Wolcott & Upson at Akron, remaining until March, 1859, when he was admitted to the bar by the Ohio Supreme Court. He then removed to Cleveland, and entered the law office of Otis & Coffinbury, where he remained several months. Here he continued his studies with increased zeal, and did much general reading. Hard study and close confinement to office work, however, began to tell on his constitution, and failing health warned him that he must seek other occupation.

He therefore reluctantly abandoned the law and removed to Grand Rapids, Mich., to engage in the lumber business.

When Michigan was called upon to furnish troops for the war, Mr. Alger enlisted in the Second Mich. Cav. and was mustered into the service of the United States as Captain of Co. C. His record as a cavalry officer was brilliant and honorable to himself and his company. He participated in some of the fiercest contests of the rebellion and was twice wounded. His first injury was received in the battle of Booneville, Miss., July 2, 1862. His conduct in this engagement was so distinguished that he was promoted to the rank of Major. On the same occasion his Colonel, the gallant Phil. Sheridan, was advanced to the rank of Brigadier General. A few months later, on the 16th of October, Major Alger became Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Mich. Cav., and was ordered with his regiment to the Army of the Potomac. After marked service in the early campaign of 1863, he was again advanced, and on June 2 received his commission as Colonel of the Fifth Mich. Cav. His regiment at this time was in Custer's famous Michigan cavalry brigade. On the 6th of July occurred the battle of Boonesboro, Md. In this conflict he was again wounded. His health received a more than temporary impairment, and in October, 1864, he was obliged to retire from the service. His career as a soldier included many of the most celebrated contests of the war. He was an active character in all the battles fought by the Army of the

Potomac, from the time of the invasion of Maryland by Gen. Lee in 1863, up to the date of his retirement, with the exception of those engagements which occurred while he was absent from duty on account of wounds. In all he took part in 66 battles and skirmishes. At the close he was breveted Brigadier General and Major General for "gallant and meritorious services in the field."

Aside from regular duty, Gen. Alger was on private service during the winter of 1863-4, receiving orders personally from President Lincoln and visiting nearly all the armies in the field.

Gen. Alger came to Detroit in 1865, and since that time has been extensively engaged in the pine timber business and in dealing in pine lands. He was a member of the well-known firm of Moore & Alger until its dissolution, when he became head of the firm of R. A. Alger & Co., the most extensive pine timber operators in the West. Gen. Alger is now president of the corporation of Alger, Smith & Co., which succeeded R. A. Alger & Co. He is also president of the Manistique Lumbering Company and president of the Detroit, Bay City & Alpena Railroad Company, besides being a stockholder and director of the Detroit National Bank, the Peninsular Car Company and several other large corporations.

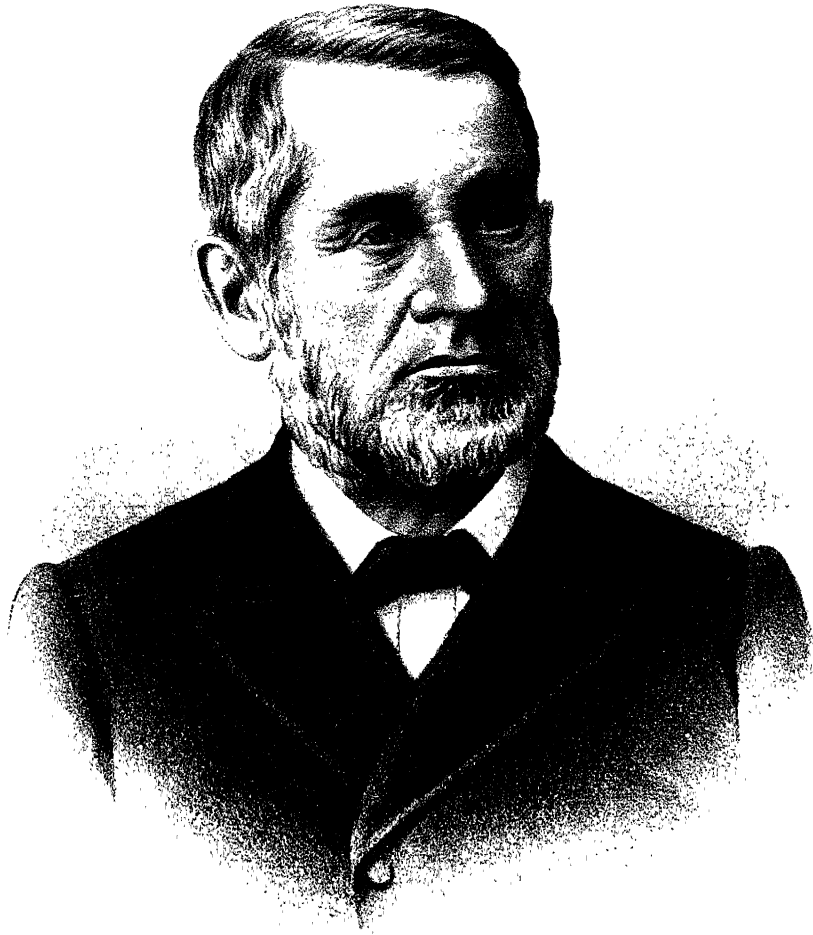
While always an active and influential Republican, Gen. Alger has never sought nor held a salaried office. He was a delegate from the First District to the last Republican National Convention, but aside from this his connection with politics has not extended beyond the duties of every good citizen to his party and his country.

Gen. Alger is now forty-nine years of age, an active, handsome gentleman six feet tall, living the life of a busy man of affairs. His military bearing at once indicates his army life, and although slenderly built, his square shoulders and erect carriage give the casual observer the impression that his weight is fully 180 pounds. He is a firm, yet a most decidedly pleasant-appearing man, with a fine forehead, rather a prominent nose, an iron-gray moustache and chin whiskers and a full head of black hair sprinkled with gray. He is usually attired in the prevailing style of business suits. His favorite dress has been a high buttoned cutaway

frock coat, with the predominating cut of vest and trousers, made of firm gray suiting. A high collar, small cravat, easy shoes and white plug hat complete his personal apparel. He is very particular as to his appearance, and always wears neat clothes of the best goods, but shuns any display of jewelry or extravagant embellishment. He is one of the most approachable men imaginable. No matter how busy he may be, he always leaves his desk to extend a cordial welcome to every visitor, be he of high or low situation. His affable manners delight his guests, while his pleasing face and bright, dark eyes always animate his hearers.

Gen. Alger is a hard worker. He is always at his office promptly in the morning and stays as long as anything remains that demands his attention. In business matters he is always decided, and is never shaken or disturbed by any reverses. He has the confidence of his associates to a high degree, and all his business relations are tempered with those little kindnesses that relieve the tedium of routine office life. Although deeply engrossed in various business pursuits, Gen. Alger has yet found time for general culture. He owns a large library and his stock of general information is as complete as it is reliable. His collection of paintings has been selected with rare good taste, and contains some of the finest productions of modern artists. His team of bays are perhaps the handsomest that grace the roads of Detroit, and usually lead the other outfits when their owner holds the reins.

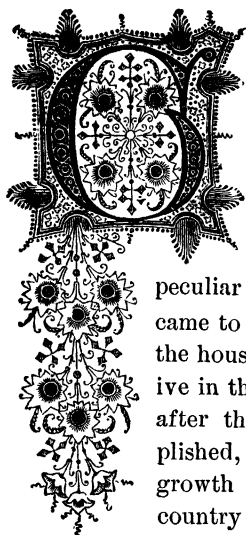
Gen. Alger has an interesting family. His wife was Annette H. Henry, the daughter of W. G. Henry, of Grand Rapids, to whom he was married April 2, 1861. She is a slender woman of fair complexion, bright and attractive, and a charming hostess. She is gifted with many accomplishments and appears quite young. There are six children. Fay, a lively brunette, and Caroline A., who is rather tall and resembles her mother, have completed a course at an Eastern seminary, and during the past year traveled in Europe. The remaining members of the family are Frances, aged 13; Russell A., Jr., aged 11; Fred, aged 9, and Allan, aged 3. All are bright and promising children. Gen. Alger makes his home at his handsome and large new residence on Fort street, at the corner of First street, Detroit.



Very respectfully
Cyrus G. Lucas



Cyrus Gray Luce.



YRUS GRAY LUCE, the present Governor of Michigan, combines in his character the substantial traits of the New England ancestry of his father, and the chivalrous and hospitable elements peculiar to the Southerners, which came to him from his mother's side of the house. The New Englanders, active in the cause of American liberty, after this desired result was accomplished, turned their attention to the growth and development of the country which their noble daring had constituted independent of foreign rule. The privations they endured and the struggles from which they had achieved victory built up in them those qualities which in the very nature of events could not be otherwise than transmitted to their posterity, and this posterity comprises a large number of the men who to-day, like the subject of this history, are making a record of which their descendants will be equally proud.

Gov. Luce was born in Windsor, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, July 2, 1824. His father was a native of Tolland, Conn., served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and soon after its close emigrated from New England and settled on the Western Reserve in Northern Ohio. His mother, who in her girlhood was Miss Mary Gray, was born in Winchester, Va. Her father, tinctured with Abolitionism, found his home in the Old Dominion becoming uncomfortable as an abiding-place at that time, and accordingly, with his wife and family of young children,

he also migrated, in 1815, to the wilds of Northern Ohio. There the parents of our subject, in 1819, were united in marriage, and continued residents of Ashtabula County until 1836. There also were born to them six sons, Cyrus G. of this sketch being the second.

The incidents in the early life of Gov. Luce were not materially different from those of other boys living on the farms in that new country. He was taught to work at anything necessary for him to do and to make himself useful around the pioneer homestead. When twelve years of age his parents removed further West, this time locating in Steuben County, Ind. This section of country was still newer and more thinly settled, and without recounting the particular hardships and privations which the family experienced, it is sufficient to say that but few enjoyed or suffered a greater variety. Markets were distant and difficult of access, the comforts of life scarce, and sickness universal. Young Luce, in common with other boys, attended school winters in the stereotyped log school-house, and in summer assisted in clearing away the forests, fencing the fields and raising crops after the land was improved. He attended three terms an academy located at Ontario, Ind., and his habit of reading and observation added essentially to his limited school privileges.

When seventeen years of age the father of our subject erected a cloth-dressing and wool-carding establishment, where Cyrus G. acquired a full knowledge of this business and subsequently had charge of the factory for a period of seven years. In the meantime he had become interested in local politics, in which he displayed rare judgment and sound common sense, and on account of which, in 1848, he was nominated by the Whigs in a district composed of the counties of DeKalb and Steuben for Representative in the State Legislature. He made a vigorous canvass but was defeated by eleven majority. This incident was but a transient bubble on the stream of his life, and that same year

Mr. Luce purchased eighty acres of wild land near Gilead, Branch Co., Mich., the improvement of which he at once entered upon, clearing away the trees and otherwise making arrangements for the establishment of a homestead. In August, 1849, he was united in marriage with Miss Julia A. Dickinson, of Gilead, and the young people immediately commenced housekeeping in a modest dwelling on the new farm. Here they resided until the death of the wife, which took place in August, 1882. Mrs. Luce was the daughter of Obed and Experience Dickinson, well-to-do and highly respected residents of Gilead. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, one now deceased.

In November, 1883, Gov. Luce contracted a second marriage, with Mrs. Mary Thompson, of Bronson, this State. He continued on the same farm, which, however, by subsequent purchase had been considerably extended, until after his election to the office of which he is now the incumbent. In the meantime he has had a wide and varied experience in public life. In 1852 he was elected to represent his township in the County Board of Supervisors, and two years later, in 1854, was elected Representative to the first Republican Legislature convened in the State of Michigan. He served his township altogether eleven years as a member of the Board of Supervisors. In 1858 he was elected County Treasurer of Branch County and re-elected in 1860. In 1864 he was given a seat in the State Senate and re-elected in 1866. In the spring of 1867 he was made a member of the Constitutional Convention to revise the Constitution of the State of Michigan, and in all of the positions to which he has been called has evidenced a realization of the sober responsibilities committed to his care. To the duties of each he gave the most conscientious care, and has great reason to feel pride and satisfaction in the fact that during his service in both Houses of the Legislature his name appears upon every roll-call, he never having been absent from his post a day.

In July, 1879, Mr. Luce was appointed State Oil Inspector by Gov. Croswell, and re-appointed by Gov. Jerome in 1881, serving in this capacity three and one-half years. In the management of the duties of this office he is entitled to great credit. The office was not sought by him, but the Governor

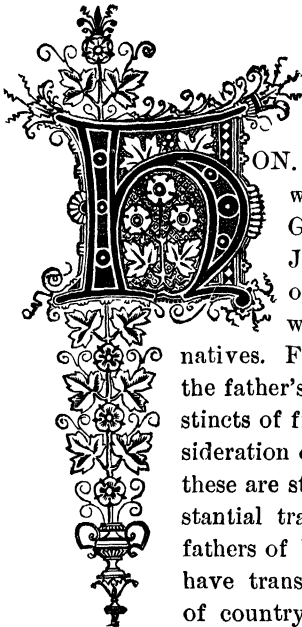
urged him to accept it, claiming that the office was the most difficult he had to fill, and was one which required first-class executive ability. He organized the State into districts, appointed an adequate force of deputies and no more, secured a reduction of the fees by nearly one-half, and in every way managed the affairs of the office so efficiently and satisfactorily that above all expenses he was enabled to pay into the State Treasury during his management \$32,000.49.

In August of the year 1886 Mr. Luce was nominated by the Republicans in convention assembled at Grand Rapids, for the office of Governor of Michigan by acclamation, and on the 2d of November following was elected by a majority of 7,432 over his chief competitor, George L. Yape. In 1874 he became an active member of the farmers' organization known as the Grange. Believing as he does that agriculture furnishes the basis of National prosperity, he was anxious to contribute to the education and elevation of the farming community, and thus availed himself of the opportunities offered by this organization to aid in accomplishing this result. For a period of seven years he was Master of the State Grange but resigned the position last November. Fidelity to convictions, close application to business, whether agricultural or affairs of State, coupled with untiring industry, are his chief characteristics. As a farmer, legislator, executive officer, and manager of county as well as State affairs, as a private as well as a public citizen, his career has all along been marked with success. No one can point to a spot reflecting discredit in his public career or private life. He is a man of the people, and self-made in the strictest sense. His whole life has been among the people, in full sympathy with them, and in their special confidence and esteem.

Personally, Gov. Cyrus G. Luce is high-minded, intellectual and affable, the object of many and warm friendships, and a man in all respects above reproach. To the duties of his high position he has brought a fitting dignity, and in all the relations of life that conscientious regard to duty of which we often read but which is too seldom seen, especially among those having within their hands the interests of State and Nation.



Edwin B Winans



NON. EDWIN B. WINANS, who began his duties as Governor of Michigan, January 1, 1891, is a son of the Empire State, of which his parents also were natives. From German ancestry on the father's side, he derives the instincts of frugality and careful consideration of ways and means, and these are strengthened by the substantial traits of the Puritan forefathers of his mother. Both lines have transmitted to him the love of country and home that has led thousands into untrodden wilds where they might secure that which would be for the future good of themselves and posterity.

John and Eliza (Way) Winans removed from New York to this State in 1834, and settled on a farm in Livingston County, where the boyhood of Gov. Winans was passed. He was about eight years old at the time of the removal, having been born at Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., May 16, 1826. Up to the age of eighteen years he attended the district school, and he then entered Albion College, from which he was graduated in 1850. The excitement attendant upon the discovery of

gold in California had not died out, and young Winans felt a strong desire to visit the coast and try his fortune in the mines. He decided in favor of the overland route, crossed the plains in safety, and spent the ensuing eight years in seeking the precious metal—a quest that was fairly successful.

Returning to Livingston County, this State, Mr. Winans bought land and engaged in general farming. He has retained the farm as his home through all the changes various official positions have brought him, and joyfully returned to it whenever his faithful discharge of public duty would allow. His estate now includes four hundred acres of land under a high state of cultivation and improved with buildings of the best construction and modern design. In connection with general farming Gov. Winans has given considerable attention to raising stock of high grades, and his understanding of agriculture in its various departments is broad and deep. He believes that his success in political life is largely due to his thorough identification with the agricultural interests of the State and no doubt he is right.

The public career of Gov. Winans began in 1860, when he was elected to represent his county in the State Legislature. He served two consecutive terms, covering the period from 1860 to 1865. In 1867 he was a member of the Constitutional Con-

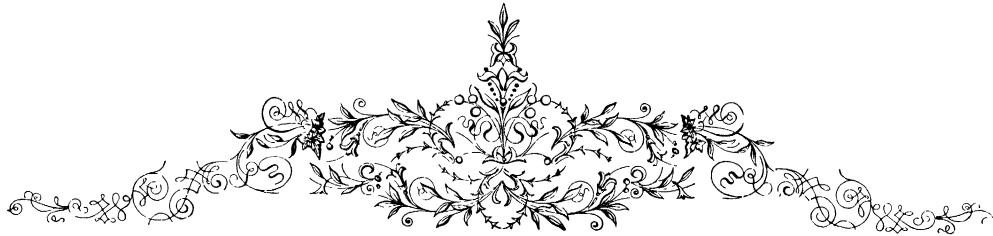
vention of the State, and in 1876 he was elected Probate Judge of Livingston County for a term of four years. The next important position occupied by Gov. Winans was that of Congressman during the Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Congresses, representing the Sixth District. It was always his lot to be nominated for office when the Democratic party was decidedly in the minority, but such were his personal characteristics and his reputation as one interested in the welfare of that great class, the farmers, that in every case he made a successful race. When he was put up for Congress the opposition had a majority in the district of three thousand votes, but he was elected by a plurality of thirty. While in Congress he took an active part in all measures tending to the public good and served on the Committees on Agriculture and Pensions. In the fall of 1891 his name headed the Democratic ticket and he was elected Governor of the State.

In his private life Gov. Winans has been as exemplary as in his public career he has been useful and influential. He is a consistent member of the Episcopal Church and in his religious faith and practice has the close sympathy of his wife, who belongs to the same society. His marriage was solemnized in Hamburg, Livingston County, in 1855, his bride being Miss Elizabeth Galloway, who

was born and reared on the farm she still calls home, as it was bought of her father by Gov. Winans. She is a daughter of George and Susan (Haight) Galloway, who are numbered among the early settlers of Livingston County, whither they came from New York. She is an educated, refined woman, whose mental attainments and social qualities fit her for the position which she occupies as hostess of the Gubernatorial mansion. Governor and Mrs. Winans have two sons, George G., who is now acting as his father's private secretary, and Edwin B., Jr., a graduate of West Point.

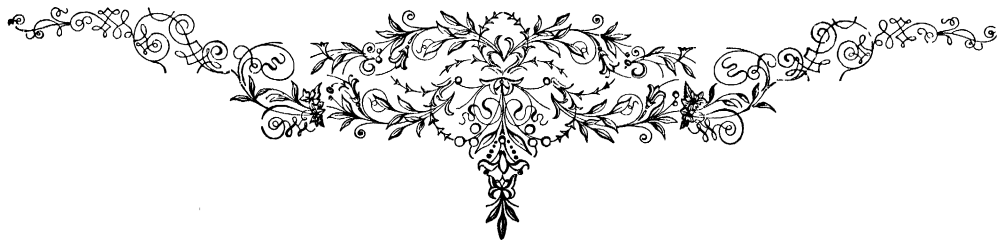
Gov. Winans has in former years shown himself capable of close application to the duties which lay before him, and his judicious decisions and wise course when attempting to bring about a worthy object, are well known to those who are acquainted with the history of the State. Although it is often said that it is scarcely safe to judge of a man until his career is closed, yet Gov. Winans has acted his part so well thus far in life that he is confidently expected to add to the credit that already belongs to the great commonwealth of Michigan, and which to a certain extent lies in the hands of those who have been and are its chief executives. Among his personal characteristics are those of a love of truth, justice and progress, and a cordial, kindly spirit which makes warm friends and staunch adherents.

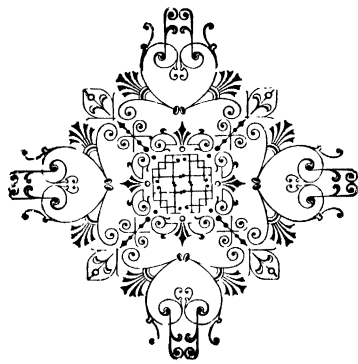




Lonia and Montcalm Counties,

Michigan.





INTRODUCTORY.

THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a

safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to preserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The excavations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people

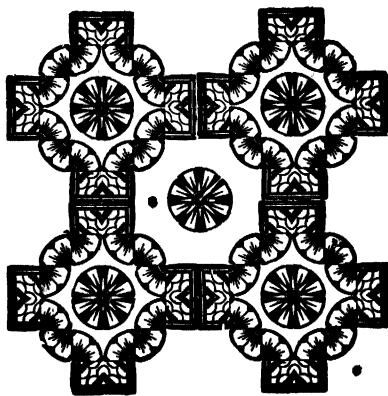
to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

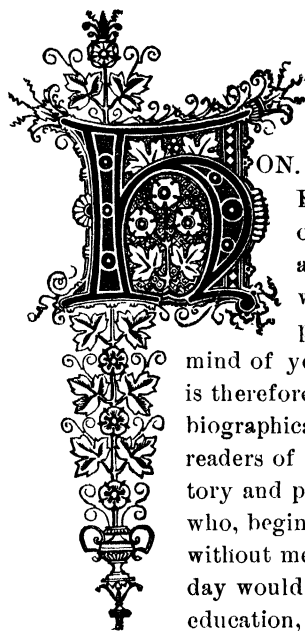
The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.





BIOGRAPHICAL.



MR. GEORGE W. WEBBER. The example of one man who has made an honorable record, is worth more than all the precepts with which the mind of youth can be stored. It is therefore with pleasure that the biographical writer presents to the readers of this ALBUM the life history and portrait of this gentleman who, beginning his personal career without means and with what in this day would be considered a limited education, has secured an enviable position as a prosperous business man, and the possessor of abundant wealth to enable him to enjoy all the comforts of life. Possessing intrepid spirit and indomitable will, these traits, together with large enterprise and great executive ability, have placed him in the front rank of the prominent citizens of Ionia, with the growth and development of which he has been closely identified.

One of the most reliable banks in the State, is Webber Bros. Private Bank, of which our subject has long been President. With its organization as the Second National Bank of Ionia he was prominently connected, and this close association is still maintained. To the duties of this position he brings unusual force of character, soundness of judgment and clearness of perception; as a citizen

and friend he is reliable, and in social life kindly and considerate. His fine personal appearance and pleasing address, combined with practical enterprise and strengthened by integrity, have tended to his success in business.

The nobility of a family depends not upon hereditary titles, but upon the personal qualities of its members, their nobility of character and usefulness to the communities of which they form a part. The subject of this biographical notice can look back over the family history with a just pride in the record made by those to whom he owes his being. His ancestors were among the very early settlers in the Connecticut Valley, and had representatives among the dwellers on both sides of the river. Tourists who enjoy the delightful views among the Franconia Mountains in New Hampshire, remember well the Profile House. The land adjoining this house once belonged to the paternal grandfather of our subject. A successful farmer, he also kept what was then known as the Webber Inn, a few miles from the present hotel. In that locality the family has exerted great influence for at least three generations, and its members are highly esteemed on account of their intelligence and integrity.

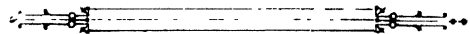
The father of our subject, Andrew Webber, was a farmer of Newbury, Orange County, Vt., whence he removed in 1838 to Steuben County, N. Y. He was a broad-minded, practical man, and while with the aid of his six sons he improved several farms,

he also engaged in mercantile pursuits, and gave his sons a thorough knowledge of business affairs. The Hon. George W. Webber was born November 25, 1825, at Newbury, Vt. He was educated in the common schools in the neighborhood of his home, and at the academy in Alfred, Allegany County, N. Y. At the age of twenty years he engaged in business as a lumber-dealer and general merchant. July 18, 1850, he married Miss Antoinette C. Abbey, daughter of Jonathan E. Abbey, an old resident of Ulster County, N. Y. Miss Abbey was born November 29, 1830, and, like her husband, was descended from a race of pioneers. This marriage was celebrated in Steuben County, N. Y. In 1852 Mr. Webber came to Michigan, and for six years was engaged in lumbering in Manistee County, which was then very new and contained no roads or post-routes. Mail was carried by Indians. Manistee had not yet a village organization. In 1856, when John C. Fremont was the nominee of the Republican party for President, Manistee was the banner Republican county in the State, giving but three Democratic votes. This result was largely owing to the efforts of Mr. Webber. In 1858 he removed to Ionia County, which has since been his home, and with whose interests his own have been identical.

While living in Lyons, Mr. Webber entered into partnership with his brother, S. W. Webber, in a mercantile enterprise, but after five years sold his interest in the business to his brother and went to Ionia. Here he entered into business with H. J. Wilson, one of the pioneers of the place. He was also interested in the lumbering business, and was for three years in partnership with the Hon. Fred Hall, under the firm name of Hall & Webber, doing lumbering on the Little Muskegon River. The firm of Webber Bros. is the successor to the firm of Hall & Webber. These brothers have carried on several different lines of business, and are the founders of the enterprising village of Mecosta, Mecosta County, in the northern part of the State, which is built upon their land. George W. Webber has also been engaged in banking, entering with his brother S. W. Webber, in 1870, into a private banking enterprise at Muir, which after four years he sold out to his brother.

Mr. Webber was one of the village Trustees of Ionia when it was organized as a city, and assisted in drafting its charter. The citizens of that enterprising city have twice made him their Mayor, and during his terms of office the city enjoyed its greatest prosperity. An iron bridge was at that time built over Grand River, and a high-water road provided for. The purchase of valuable property was also made, for the purpose of laying water-pipes. He has aided greatly in every way the efforts towards the prosperity of the town, having built some of the finest blocks on the business streets. The Webber Block was built in 1879, at a cost of \$15,000, the Webber brown stone block in 1880, at a cost of \$30,000. Rooms in the latter block were fitted up by Mr. Webber especially for the Ladies' Library Association, and donated to their use. He is also principal owner in the Webber Bros.' Bank Block, including two stores and the bank building.

Churches and benevolent institutions, schools and colleges find a warm and helpful friend in Mr. Webber, who aided liberally in providing educational facilities in his city. The Fifth Congressional District honored itself November 2, 1880, by electing George W. Webber to Congress by a plurality of eleven thousand and two hundred and forty-three votes, and a majority of two thousand and seven over all competitors, being the candidate of the Republican party. Mr. Webber lost the wife of his youth, April 11, 1890. On November 2, 1890, he was united in marriage to Miss E. Gertrude Brown, of Boston, Mass., an intelligent and accomplished lady.



WILBER H. MOON. This name is familiar to the residents of Ionia County and will be recognized by other readers, as he who bears it has been intimately connected with educational affairs and was at one time County Superintendent of Schools in Ionia County. He came hither in his boyhood and has not only seen the county improved but has himself aided in bringing about the present state of affairs, material and



Respectfully
Geo. H. Weber

social. Reared upon a farm he had a share in the improvement of property, and in his later years he has tilled the soil and now is carrying on a farm on section 19, Keene Township. For several years he was engaged in teaching and he has from that time kept up his interest in the cause of education and done what he could to promote the efficiency of the schools.

Mr. Moon was born in Monroe County, N. Y., January 1, 1839, and came to this State with his parents, Tracy and Abigail (Beadle) Moon, in 1846. The family settled in Otisco Township, Ionia County, and were among the first to make a home in that part of the county. They were practically in the woods and found it necessary to endure hardships and make sacrifices that are not called for in regions that have been settled longer. The faithful wife and mother died in 1876, but the father survived until March, 1889, and witnessed a high degree of development and prosperity in the county. The parental family comprised eight children, six of whom are living, namely: Frank A., and John B. in Montcalm County; Wilber H.; Emery P., in Husted, Col.; Harriet A., wife of C. W. Wakeman in Kent County; Emma S., wife of J. L. Blood, in Corry, Pa.

Amid the primitive surroundings of the early home in Ionia County Wilber Moon grew to manhood. He pursued his studies in the district school of Otisco Township and first taught in Ada Township, Kent County. There he was engaged for three successive winters, building up a reputation for tact and mental ability. When he closed his school in the spring of 1861 he exchanged his books for the implements of warfare, enlisting in Company A, Third Michigan Infantry, during the month of April. Although he was one of the first to tender his services to the country in her hour of need he did not go into active service until June. He then took part in the disastrous battle of Bull Run, in the siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, the seven days' fight in front of Richmond, Malvern Hill, the second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, filling the interims of time with such campaign and camp duties as commonly fall to the lot of soldiers. He was with the Army of the Potomac during his entire

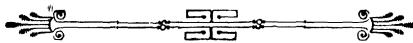
service, but after the battle of Gettysburg left the South, being sent to this State and placed on duty in Kent County until April, 1864, when he was stationed at Jackson until his discharge, June 18, 1864.

When his services were no longer needed in the Union army Mr. Moon resumed his professional work and subsequently taught school ten winters. In 1872 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools and did efficient work during the term of two years. His name was brought before the public on the Republican ticket, he being a staunch advocate of the principles of that party. Later he filled the office of Township Clerk two years, and was for a long time Inspector of Schools of Keene Township. He became a resident of that township in 1866 and has given more or less time to the cultivation of an eighty-acre tract of land which he owns and occupies.

It is natural to suppose that Mr. Moon would choose for his wife an educated and refined lady, and one who would sympathize with him in his vocation. This was the case, and November 8, 1863, he was married to Miss Satira R. Fallas, daughter of William and Wealthy (Winslow) Fallas, parents and daughter natives of New York. Mrs. Moon was a teacher in her youth and has always been interested in school work and mental growth. She and her husband have endeavored to keep up their own discipline of mind by extensive reading, supplementing in this way the education of their earlier years and keeping abreast of the times so as to enjoy an interchange of thought with their children and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Moon have four children, in whose education they have taken much interest, and all except the eldest were graduated from the Ionia High School. Their names are, Myrtle A., Frank C., Cora A. and L. Lura. The daughters are teaching, two in Iron Mountain and the youngest in Kent County.

Mr. and Mrs. Moon hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Moon is now Recording Steward. He is identified with the Patrons of Husbandry and is Master of Keene Grange No. 270. Both in 1880 and 1890 he was Census Enumerator of Keene Township. He takes a lively interest in the political and social questions agitating the

minds of the people and has a decided influence by reason of his mental ability, good judgment and pleasing personal qualities. He ranks as a successful educator and honorable business man and a skillful farmer. Personally he is genial and entertaining, his hospitality is well known, while the members of his family circle aid him to the best of their ability in making their residence the center of true culture of mind and heart. They draw around them a pleasant circle of friends that is constantly reaching out and adding to its numbers and influence.



GEORGE DOUGLASS, Supervisor of Ferris Township, Montcalm County, has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 22. He was the youngest of a large family of ten children and was born in Rush, Monroe County, N. Y., October 26, 1844. For his parentage and ancestry the reader may consult the sketch of his brother Micajah Douglass. When five years of age the child removed with his parents to Richmond, N. Y., and was brought up on the banks of Honeoye Lake, gaining his schooling in the district schools.

In the spring of 1856 the family yielded to the prevailing fever for emigration and came to Michigan traveling by boat to Detroit and thence by team to Kent County. Here he labored for the interests of the family on the farm until the spring of 1861. He was among the first to answer to the call of President Lincoln, and volunteered as a private in the Third Michigan Regiment. But the father felt that the youth was too young to leave home and go into the army and refused consent to his enlistment.

But the boy's determination was fixed and before summer waned he gained the consent of his parents and again he enlisted in August, this time in Company B, Eighth Michigan Infantry. He was mustered in at Detroit and was soon sent into active service. He was one of the soldiers in the expedition to Port Royal and was at the capture of Ft. Pulaski and the battle of James Island. After this his regiment was transferred to the Army of the

Potomac, where it continued through the Polk campaign. He saw fight in the second battle of Bull Run, and in those of Charlotte, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. They were ordered to the rear of Vicksburg and were active at Jackson, at Cumberland Gap and at Knoxville, and veteranized in the field at Blaines Cross Roads. On December 28, 1863, they were remanded to the Army of the Potomac, and saw active service in the battle of the Wilderness which took place May 6, 1864. Here he was wounded in the left foot, and was sent to the hospital at Washington.

A long weary time of waiting and convalescence tried the patience of the young soldier. It was eight months before he could travel and he was then transferred to the Twenty-Fourth Regiment, Veteran Relief Corps, which was stationed at Washington until the close of the war. He received an honorable discharge July 20, 1865, having served bravely throughout almost the entire term of the Civil War.

Feeling that his early manhood had been spent in labors for his country which had not fitted him for the ordinary avocations of life, our subject now set about for what was before him. He attended Eastman's Business College for awhile and then returned home and began farming, buying a farm in Lowell, Kent County, which he operated until 1870, when he came to Ferris Township, this county, and two years later bought a farm of forty acres on section 14. In 1885 he sold this in an improved condition and bought his present place, half of which he has placed under cultivation, building fences and all the necessary buildings for general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Douglass was twice married. The first time in 1870 to Miss Lottie Sherman, a native of New York. She became the mother of two children—Carrie M., a popular and efficient teacher, and Laura J., the wife of William Lucas, who resides in Douglas Township, this county. The second Mrs. Douglass, to whom he was united October 5, 1884, is the daughter of Arad E. Linsday. She was born in Ionia County, Mich. Her father was a mechanic and in Hamilton, Ind., was for some time engaged in the manufacture of wagons. Later he came to Michigan and located in Bloomer Township, this

county, where he engaged in farming. In April, 1861, he enlisted in the Third Michigan Regiment in which he served until he was transferred to the One Hundred and Second Regiment of the Veteran Corps with the rank of Captain. He was killed at Pocotaligo on the expedition from Port Royal, by a shell.

The mother of our subject's wife bore the maiden name of Harriet Herrick. She was born in Ohio where her father, Harlow, a native of New York, was an early settler. He later came to Ionia where he made his home and for some time traveled as a insurance agent and also followed milling until a good old age. His wife has attained the age of eighty-seven years, and he has completed the full number of ninety years. They reside with their daughter on a beautiful farm in Ionia County.

The wife of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born near Ionia, Ionia County, August 24, 1861. They are the parents of two children—Treva and Elzie. Mr. Douglass is the Supervisor of Ferris Township, and was for two years Township Treasurer and for one year Commissioner of Highways. His interest in educational matters has placed him upon the School Board. He is also Master of the Ferris Grange and a member of the Col. Ely Post, G. A. R. at Elm Hall. He is an active and prominent Republican, always interested in matters of public interest and solicitous for the upbuilding of society and the prosperity of his town.



CHAUNCEY CASE. Among the men who have secured a competence through cultivation of the soil in Montcalm County is Mr. Case, who owns and occupies a valuable farm in Crystal Township. His estate consists of one hundred and eighty broad and fertile acres, where a comfortable dwelling, substantial barns and other buildings testify to his good judgment and prosperity. Mr. Case is a thrifty and careful man, as may be seen by a visit to his home, where the implements of his vocation will be found housed in a

tool-house and sheds and the vehicles that he uses kept in a carriage-house or wagon-shed. The orchard and shade trees, without which a farm can scarcely be said to be well regulated, adorn his property.

Mr. Case was born in Oakland County, this State, March 12, 1832, and spent his early years on a farm. He was two years old when his parents removed to Ionia County and located on the Grand River, little more than a mile from the county seat. Three years later, while the father of our subject and a Mr. Cornwell were crossing the Thornapple River, the former lost his life. The widow was married two years later to Mr. John L. Smith, who reared the family. Our subject remained in Ionia County until he was of age. His principal playmates were Indian boys and his educational privileges were very limited, but he learned many a lesson that is not to be acquired in the school-room and is as necessary as book knowledge for one who would act well his part in life.

As the family, of which he was a member, was one of the first to make a home in Ionia County, Mr. Case recalls scenes of pioneer times and can count on his fingers the families that lived in Ionia when he went there to mill. He also remembers going to Grand Rapids and Pontiac for a similar purpose or for household supplies. In the fall of 1853 he came to Montcalm County and located where he is still living. When he came here his nearest neighbor was six miles and their nearest mill and trading point was twenty-four miles—our subject once carried provisions on his back twenty-four miles for his family. He built a log cabin and began a clearing which grew in extent and finally included the goodly acreage which he is now operating.

Mr. Case was married January 1, 1857, to Miss Mary E. Tissue, who was born in Auglaize County, Ohio. When she was eight years old her father, James Tissue, removed to Sandusky County, and eight years later brought his family to Ionia County, this State. After living there two years he came to Montcalm County, where he carried on his vocation—farming—until near his death in 1888. He was bereft of his wife, the mother of Mrs. Case, some sixteen years since. Mr. and Mrs.

Case are the parents of five children, whose record is as follows: Emma, born December 15, 1857; Seymour J., April 27, 1860; Many M., February 29, 1863; Stella May, June 19, 1867; Minnie B. March 23, 1870. Many and Minnie are deceased, and the others are married and living in homes of their own in Montcalm County.

Mr. Case has always taken an interest in the progress of educational affairs and bestowed upon his own progeny good advantages. He has served efficiently as Township Treasurer, Highway Commissioner, and in the various school offices. He exercises the right of suffrage in behalf of the Democratic party and its principles. As a citizen he is public-spirited, as a farmer enterprising and progressive, and he is classed among the respected members of society. Our subject and wife are members of the Congregational Church; he is a member of the Mount Gilia Lodge of F. A. M., and his family is one of the first two who settled in this township.



FREDERICK W. ERDMAN. The life of Mr. Erdman has been a busy one and his personal efforts for advancement were begun at a very early age. His experience has been a somewhat checkered one, as continued success falls to the lot of very few, but he has on the whole been successful, and he is now the owner of a good property in Ionia County and has his affairs on a solid basis. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of land in Danby Township, together with village property in Sebowa, one half mile distant. At this writing (April, 1891) the material for a modern residence is on the ground and ere long a dwelling in keeping with the other appointments of the farm will rear its walls. Mr. Erdman is well-known for his connection with the civil and social affairs of the section and is at present serving as Supervisor of his township.

In Berlin, Prussia, William Erdman and Lottie Coon were born, reared and married, and near that city they lived upon a farm until some three years after the birth of their third child, Frederick W.

They then determined to make a home in the New World and embarking on a sailing vessel landed at New York after a tedious voyage of three months. They went direct to Wolcottsville, Niagara County, where they lived four years, after which they came to this State and located in Wayne County. They bought forty acres of land, making a payment of \$500 and giving a mortgage for \$1,000 to be paid in five annual payments. The mortgage was lifted according to agreement, and Mr. and Mrs. Erdman continued to occupy the farm until 1880, when they sold it to our subject. They then removed to Osceola County where they are still living on a forty-acre farm. Mr. Erdman took out naturalization papers soon after his arrival in the United States and he is thoroughly in sympathy with American institutions. He has always been a Democrat and his sons belong to the same party. He and his wife belong to the Lutheran Church and are earnest believers. Of the seven children born to them those now living are Frederick W., John, William, Mary and Clara. William is living in Utah; Mary is the wife of Jesse Davis, and Clara of William Moored.

The natal day of Frederick W. Erdman was October 30, 1849, and his birthplace the vicinity of Berlin, Prussia. As he came to America in childhood his recollections scarcely go back to his native land. He was seven years old when the family came to this State and he continued to reside in Wayne County until the year 1882. When eleven years old he began to earn his own living and for eight years he worked as a farm hand. He saved \$400, of which he gave one-half to his parents, retaining the rest as a capital for his future operations. He took a farm of eighty-seven acres on shares, and securing a trusty helpmate he remained there three years. Being taken sick he sold out his interests and went to Colorado, where he bought ninety-six acres, which he sold within three months at a gain of \$350. He remained two years longer to recruit his strength, but Mrs. Erdman returned to Michigan.

At the expiration of the period named Mr. Erdman came back to this State and bought an improved farm of fifty acres in Wayne County. After occupying it eight years he bought his father's

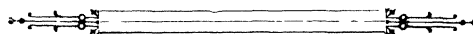
farm of forty-three acres adjoining his own, and occupied the homestead a year. He then sold both tracts for \$4 800 and disposed of his chattels for \$1,000 more. He then came to Danby, Ionia County, with \$3,200 in cash, and invested in eighty acres of wild land and the house and lot in Sebewa. After making many improvements upon his farm he added to it in the spring of 1891, an improved tract of forty acres adjoining, so that he now has an estate of goodly size, the value of which has been greatly increased by the improvements it bears.

The wife to whom Mr. Erdman owes the comfort of his home and who has been his best counselor and most sympathizing helper for a score of years, bore the maiden name of Mary Wildeboor. She is a daughter of Klaas and Rekelje (Van Schuren) Wildeboor, the former of whom was a minister in the Dutch Reformed Church and died in Holland when Mrs. Erdman was but a year old. The birth of this lady took place May 20, 1844, in the land that was the ancestral home. Five years after her father's death her mother came to America, believing that by so doing she would be able to benefit her children. A year later she died, leaving six small children without money and among strangers. They, however, found homes, and all have gained good educations and the survivors are doing well in life. The first-born, Ellen, is deceased; George formerly a teacher and lawyer, is now engaged in mercantile pursuits in Missouri; Marinus is also a merchant in that State and he too has taught school; Jacob is a resident of Washington; Klaas, a capitalist of Pueblo, Col., and an ex-member of Congress, was formerly a school teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Erdman are the happy parents of three children, daughters who inherit the capability and desire for improvement that characterizes their parents. The oldest, Lottie M., is now attending the High School in Portland and will graduate in the class of 1891. She has already a good reputation as a teacher, having taught six terms, beginning when she was sixteen years of age. The second daughter, Grace, is at home, and Agnes is attending the district school. All are encouraged in the pursuit of knowledge, and the example of

their father is a constant reminder of the value he places upon a good education. His own having been sadly neglected in his boyhood, he was well aware of his disadvantages, and after his marriage became a close student by his own fireside. In his home many books will be found, which are not bought for ornament but as a means of improvement, and are carefully read. Copies of several papers lie constantly upon the table, and through their columns Mr. Erdman keeps well posted regarding general events.

Mr. Erdman had lived in Ionia County but three years ere he was a candidate for Township Treasurer, but he was defeated. The next year he was elected by a good majority and the following by a still greater one. After a year of private life he was nominated as Supervisor, elected by a handsome majority, and last spring his name being again placed on the ticket, he was elected by a majority four times as large as before. He has been placed in office by the suffrage of men of all parties, although it is well known that he is a staunch Democrat, as he is decided, though civil, in giving his opinions, and works for his party which he has often served as a delegate. He belongs to the Odd Fellows Lodge at Sebewa and to the Encampment at Portland, and at the latter place he also holds membership in the Royal Arcanum.



RANSOM RATHBUN. Among the representative agriculturists of Ionia County, may be mentioned Mr. Rathbun, who owns and occupies a fine farm on section 30, Easton Township. His estate consists of one hundred and twenty acres, mostly under cultivation, and partly cleared by himself when he was living under the parental roof. He accompanied his parents hither in 1853, and aided in reclaiming the quarter-section bought by his father, before he established a household. Since he took a man's place in the world, he has made his mark as a thorough farmer, a public-spirited and reliable citizen, and an esteemed member of society.

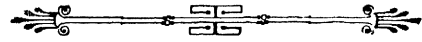
The parents of our subject were Cornelius and

Clarissa Rathbun, both born in Connecticut. His paternal grandfather was born in North Carolina, and was a sailor engaged in the merchant marine service during the Revolution. Cornelius Rathbun was in the American army in the War of 1812, and stationed at Black Rock. For nine years he was a commissioned officer in the New York State militia. In 1853 he brought his family to Ionia County from Canada, where he had been living for some years. He settled on the tract, a part of which is now owned by our subject, his first dwelling here being a log cabin 20x24 feet in the heart of the forest. He had been obliged to chop away trees to make a building site, so dense was the growth. He undertook the work of reclaiming the land from its original condition, and when he died in 1862, he left a fine farm. His wife survived him and entered into rest in 1867. They had six children, but all who are now living are Ransom, and Deborah, widow of John Reid, of Ionia. Mr. Rathbun voted with the Republicans, and worshipped in the Second Advent Church.

The birthplace of Ransom Rathbun was County Lambton, Province of Ontario, and his natal day November 6, 1836. His education was received in the common schools of Canada and this State, and supplemented by reading in mature years. He was married December 30, 1857, to Sarah A. Richmond, a native of the Province of Ontario, born near Hamilton, April 3, 1836. She is a daughter of Benjamin and Margaret (Pickersgill) Richmond, both born in England. She has three sisters and a brother, namely: Mrs. Mary Hoskin, living in Ontario, Canada; Mrs. Margaret Shepherd, in Manitoba; Mrs. Elizabeth Langford, near London, Ontario; and Benjamin, in County Lambton. Her own family includes four living children and one deceased. The survivors are Lorenzo D., Elvira, Edwin R. and Guy W. The daughter is now living in Allegan, having married W. G. Born. Emma died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Rathbun find their religious home in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The husband is especially active in Sunday-school work, and is now Superintendent of the Union Sunday-school held in the Dexter schoolhouse. Mrs. Rathbun is connected with the Woman's Christian Temperance

Union, and has officiated as Vice-President and Treasurer. Intelligent, social and kind, both husband and wife are active in social affairs, and dispense the hospitality of their own home with right goodwill. Mr. Rathbun is independent in politics, of which he has made quite a study, advancing many original ideas which, if put in force, might to a degree banish some of the evils now so wide spread. He has the confidence of the business world as a man of sterling integrity, and every acquaintance recognizes the public spirit which he considers a duty of every loyal citizen. His well-improved farm is a standing monument to his superior management, industry and economy.



JEROME J. ROBBINS, a retired physician, is engaged in the manufacture of shingles and hardwood lumber in Ferris Township, Montcalm County. He has a fine farm of one hundred and nine acres on section 32. His father, John A. Robbins, was born in Pittsfield, Mass. and came when a young man, first to Lewis County and then to Jefferson County, N. Y., where he cleared a farm and operated it, engaging also in the distillation of the essential oils, principally those of peppermint, hemlock, cedar and wormwood. In 1855 he came to Michigan and was one of the first settlers in Sumner Township, Gratiot County, taking up Government land at fifty cents per acre, and carrying on farming until he retired from active life, since which he resides with his son, the subject of this sketch. His wife who bore the maiden name of Lorinda Wales, was born in New York of Eastern parentage who trace their descent from the blue blood of Massachusetts. She was called from earth in 1845. Grandfather Robbins served in the War of 1812.

The subject of this biographical sketch first saw the light August 28, 1841, in Champion Township, Jefferson County, N. Y. His stepmother with her children followed the father West the year after his coming, making their journey by the old propeller "Young America" to Detroit, then by teams to Gratiot County. This was at the time of the

famous "smoky season." The boy had no school advantages between the ages of eleven and eighteen—nothing but hard work—for he helped his father improve the new farm. In 1859 he spent a season in Whiteside County, Ill., but in the winter came back and attended school at Matherton, Ionia County and the next fall he studied at the Collegiate Institute at Leoni, Jackson County. Later in the season he began teaching in Eastplains, Clinton County.

The young man started to attend the spring term at Leoni when his patriotism got the better of his educational aspirations and he enlisted May 20, 1861, in the Second Michigan Infantry for a three years' term of service. He was engaged in the battles of Blackburn Ford, the First Bull Run, Yorktown and Williamsburg. Soon after this, while acting as Hospital Steward in charge of one hundred and ten wounded at Baltimore Cross Roads he was captured with his wounded by the rebel General Fitzhugh Lee, the present Governor of Virginia, but was by him released on parole.

Two weeks later Gen. Stewart made his famous raid and repudiating Gen. Lee's parole ordered them to Richmond, but a cousin of Gen. McClellan, a rebel Adjutant, took a noble interest in their forlorn condition and rode that night thirty miles and back to see Gen. Lee and get a new parole. This allowed them to remain in their own territory and they were sent on to Annapolis, Md., and were among the very first in the parole camp. Six months later they were exchanged, and our friend joined his regiment at Fredericksburg.

Mr. Robbins was present at the skirmish of Jamestown and took part in the siege of Vicksburg. He was at the battle of Jackson, Miss., and went thence to Knoxville, where he was at the head of the column of infantry that captured Col. Frazier at Cumberland Gap. He was also at Campbell's Station, the siege of Knoxville, Blaine's Cross Roads and Blue Springs. There he went into winter quarters at Blaine's Cross Roads where he veteranized and went home for a thirty days' furlough, after which they joined Grant in the East and were in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, the siege of Petersburg and numerous other encounters. During all these battles he had

won favor with his officers and had been promoted to the position of Assistant Surgeon of the regiment. He was mustered out and honorably discharged at Detroit, July 27, 1865.

During the last two years of the war he had been studying medicine under Drs. Bonine and Vickery and in the fall of 1865 he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, graduating in 1867 and receiving the diploma of Doctor of Medicine. He located at Hubbardston, Ionia County, and by energy and hard work he has succeeded in working up a large practice. He has at times, when called, gone as far as thirty miles into the lumber woods to see patients. These trips had to be made on horseback. Many times he has had to wade streams and make his way over fallen trees and thick underbrush, and from the exposure he has suffered much. In 1880 he started in the drug business at Hubbardston in connection with his medical practice.

His health gave way under the strain which he had put upon it and he found it necessary in 1886 to change his occupation. He now entered upon the work of farming and the manufacture of lumber, and in 1887 he came to Ferris and buying a sawmill settled upon one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 20, pursuing the manufacture of shingles and hardwood lumber. His fine mill is valued at \$7,500. In 1888 he purchased the place where he now resides including one hundred and nine acres on section 32. Here he has built a large and handsome residence and placed upon the farm a windmill and tank and good and commodious outbuildings. A well one hundred and sixty feet deep, supplies never-failing water. He has devoted himself largely to raising registered Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and standard-bred horses. He has some fine specimens of horses, namely: "Mercedes," "Carver," "Cody," and "Arna," all sired by "Louis Napoleon."

Dr. Robbins has retired from his medical practice altogether. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Farman, was the daughter of Richard Farman, born in New Hampshire and granddaughter of Rozwell Farman an early settler in New York. Her father was a farmer in Oswego County, N. Y., whence he came in 1838 and located in Lyons

Township, Ionia County, being one of the first settlers there. His wife, Luzetta, daughter of Thomas Wheeler, of Massachusetts, who was in the Revolutionary War, spent her last days with Dr. Robbins, with whom she died in August, 1885, having been a widow since 1863. She belonged to the Wesleyan Methodist Church, in whose circles she carried much influence for her sincere Christian character. Mrs. Robbins was the youngest of five children and was born near Maple Corners, Ionia County in 1839. She was educated at the Portland graded schools. Three children were born to this couple: Ford P., is in the drug business at Detroit; Myrtle, (Mrs. E. C. Walker) and Mabel, attending school at Hubbardston.

Mr. Robbins is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Free and Accepted Masons, and of the Grand Army of the Republic at Hubbardston. His wife sympathizes with him in the work of this organization and is herself a member of the Women's Relief Corps. They have been active in the Congregational Church and were very energetic at the time of the building of the edifice. Mr. Robbins has for years served as Clerk of the Church. He is a Republican in politics and while residing at Hubbardston occupied many positions of trust at the request of his neighbors. He is a deservedly popular man and is universally respected.



JAMES M. CONRY has been a resident of Edmore, Montcalm County, since June 12, 1878, and is operating a farm of eighty acres on section 19, of Home Township. His father was Patriek, born in County Clare, Ireland, of wealthy parents, and received there a fine education. When only a young man he determined to come to America and make his home in the land of the free; so he left his fortune and coming to New York, drifted into farming at Westchester County, N. Y., in the vicinity of Bedford. He was accidentally killed by a fall of earth while helping to construct a tunnel. He was about sixty-

five years old at the time of his decease. His wife was Sarah Miller, whose father was of German extraction, and her mother belonged to a prominent and wealthy family of the county. She was cousin of Judge Robison of New York. Both Mr. and Mrs. Conry were Catholics. Of their nine children, seven grew to maturity. Our subject is the second oldest and the only one in Michigan. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., May 2, 1851. The same year his parents removed back to Westchester County, and he was brought up on the old farm and educated in the district schools. When fifteen years old he emigrated to Seneca, LaSalle County, Ill., where he worked on a farm for D. C. Underhill for four years.

This Mr. Underhill had lumber interests near Greenville, this county, and determining to manufacture lumber, removed here and brought our subject along with him. They reached Greenville in the spring of 1870, coming on horseback with the teams. Here he worked for Mr. Underhill for two years and then found employment in other saw-mills in the vicinity. In three years time he had worked his way up from the bottom to head sawyer, and to day can file and hang a saw as well as any one.

In 1876 Mr. Conry went to Stanton and worked in the mills there. There he also found his wife in the person of Minnie B. Townsend, daughter of R. S. and Mary Townsend. The marriage took place February 12, 1877. Mrs. Conry's father was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., February 12, 1829. His father John was the proprietor of the Townsend Hotel at Warnerville, N. Y. He was a farmer of means and one of the leading officials of that town. His wife was Lydia Bundy, a native of England. They died while with their son, at the advanced ages of seventy-nine and eighty-two years respectively.

The father of Mrs. Conry went into the employ of the railroad at the early age of seventeen years, and became conductor, which position he held when he came to Michigan. In the summer of 1867 he came to Stanton and worked for two years as a carpenter. In 1868 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff by D. O. Blake. In 1872 he was nominated for County Sheriff on the Democratic ticket, ran

ahead of his ticket by several hundred votes and was elected. After this he kept a general restaurant until the time of his death, May 15, 1882. He was one of the pioneers of Stanton and helped to build the first house. He erected for himself a fine residence in the midst of beautiful grounds. He was a charter member of the Free and Accepted Masons of Stanton, and was an active member of the Universalist Church. His funeral was the largest ever known in Stanton. Mrs. Townsend was Mary, daughter of Briggs Wilbur, of Mohawk, N. Y., who was one of the earliest settlers of Schoharie County. He owned the land where Fultonham now stands and became a man of means. After Mr. Townsend's death his wife made her home in Stanton but finally died at Detroit, October 14, 1887, under a surgical operation. She was an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Stanton. She was the mother of two children, Minnie, the wife of our subject; and Kitty L., Mrs. J. M. Chapman, wife of the agent for the Detroit, and Northern & Western Michigan Railroad at Edmore. Mrs. Conry was born in Warnerville, N. Y., June 12, 1863, and came with her parents to Michigan when she was five years old. She was educated at the Stanton grammar and High Schools.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Conry: Rufus S., who died in early childhood; Jay T; and Marion Hazel. In 1878 Mr. Conry came to Edmore, built the first place of business there and erected his residence. He has made it his home ever since. He owns a half block and has a commodious comfortable home, nicely furnished and tastefully arranged. In 1885 he took one hundred and sixty-eight acres of homestead land in Home Township on Bois Blanc Island, Mackinaw County, Mich. This beautiful place he visits every summer with his family. He has improved the land and placed buildings upon it. He proved up his claim to it in the fall of 1890. It contains valuable pine and cedar timber.

In 1887 the subject of this sketch bought eighty acres of stump land on section 19, Home Township, Montcalm County. Of this he now has sixty acres under cultivation, has a good orchard and it is all fenced. It is watered by Stony Creek and he has

all outbuildings for correct farming and stock-raising as well as a good residence. He superintends the farm himself and pays much attention to the raising of draft horses and Jersey cattle. Mr. Conry does not aspire to office but is an active Democrat and is frequently a delegate to county and State conventions. He is a Catholic by education. He is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of Maccabees at Edmore. His wife is an active member in the Methodist Church, a member of the Ladies Aid Society, of the Methodist Episcopal Church choir and active in Sunday-school work.



DANIEL LEPARD. There are many men still living in Ionia County who have had a large share in the development of its agricultural resources and also in reclaiming it from the primeval forest. One of this number is Daniel Lepard, who resides on section 29, Odessa Township, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. The story of his early years is that of many others who took possession of land upon which not a stick of timber had been cut, and who, by slow and painful degrees, removed the heavy forest, prepared the soil for cultivation and brought their land under thorough improvement. He has worked his way upward from a condition of poverty to one of comfort and even affluence.

The direct progenitors of our subject were Isaac and Nancy Lepard, natives of Virginia and Maryland respectively, and the father was of German descent. He carried on a farm in Seneca County, Ohio, and his death occurred there about 1845. The mother is still living there, and is now in her ninety-second year; she is a member of the Baptist Church (Close Communion). Nine children were born to the worthy couple and those now living are Mary, Abram, John, Daniel, Isaac, Samuel and Jacob.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs opened his eyes to the light May 27, 1830, and remained on the parental farm in Seneca County, Ohio, until he was of age. He received a

common-school education in the home district and in the intervals of study assisted his father on the farm. After the death of his parent he and a brother took charge of the estate, and carried on the affairs of life as best they could for the advantage of the family. After he had attained to his majority Mr. Lepard worked by the month on a farm during a period of some six years, after which he rented land and operated it for himself until 1861.

During that year Mr. Lepard came to Ionia County and bought eighty acres of wild land which comprises a part of his present well developed farm. He lived in a shanty near by until he had chopped and hewed timber for a house of his own, which he completed by the following spring and moved into. He then set himself to the work of clearing and improving the land during every possible moment, but for four or five years had to take jobs of chopping for others in order to supply his daily needs. At the end of that time he had about twenty-two acres of his land cleared. In later years he continued his work until the entire tract was under cultivation and marked with the substantial and ample accommodations it now bears. He also added sixty acres to the farm, stocked it with good grades of domestic animals and furnished it with implements and machinery of the better class. He has also become the possessor of real estate in the village of Lake Odessa.

For thirty years Mr. Lepard had the companionship of one of the most estimable of women, who became his wife March 23, 1855, and who walked by his side until July 25, 1885. She bore the maiden name of Margaret Parmeter. She was an intelligent, earnest woman, a member of the United Brethren Church, attending the services held in a house of worship which stands on Mr. Lepard's land. To our subject and his wife there came eight children, who answer to the names of Oscar, Elizabeth, Charlie, Flora, Lafayette, Alice, Burtis, and Shirley.

Mr. Lepard is convinced that the principles of the Republican party are most consistent with truth and justice in Governmental policy, and he therefore exercises the elective franchise in favor of its candidates. He has done much toward the advance-

ment of the community, principally in a private capacity, although he has served efficiently as Pathmaster and in school offices. He hopes to spend the remnant of his days on the homestead that is now his residence and in the midst of the people by whom he is well known and respected.



FREDERICK PATRICK, who resides on section 11, Berlin Township, Ionia County, is the oldest living son of a large family, well-known throughout this part of the State. His father, Robert Patrick, was born in 1800, in Cambridgeshire, England, and married Ursula Hersepool, a native of the same shire, and a woman thirteen years his junior. They resided in their native country until 1843, when, like many others of the British Isles, they began to think of bettering themselves and looking out for the welfare of their children, by emigrating to the New World, so bidding farewell to their dear home and friends, they embarked for America, landing in New York after an uneventful voyage. For one year they made their home in New Jersey, but their faces were turned westward and they must go farther on. They went to Niagara County, and made their home in Somerset County, N. Y., but the "star of empire" led them on and in 1854 they came to Michigan and settled on section 11, Berlin Township, Ionia County.

Mr. Patrick was a frugal, industrious man and had acquired sufficient means to purchase his home and farm of two hundred and forty acres of wild timber land. Building a log house, he settled his family in it and went sturdily to work clearing the land. He put one hundred and twenty acres under cultivation. When he had accomplished the great task of subduing the wilderness and getting his land into a productive state, he decided to place his family in a more comfortable home, and nineteen years ago built a brick house at a cost of \$4,000. Neither was he backward in providing out-houses and barns for the continued prosperity and upbuilding of his farm business. He was interested in the culture of fruit and set out a fine



Albert B. Horae

orchard. In 1874 he passed away leaving his wife who survived until February 24, 1889. Seven of their eight children are now living: our subject, Charles, John, Ella (Mrs. Rogers), Wallace, Rachael (Mrs. Pike), and Edward. Their mother trained them in the faith of the Christian Church. In politics Mr. Patrick was a Republican.

The second child of these worthy English people is the subject of this notice and was born June 28, 1836 in Cambridgeshire, England. While living in New York he attended the district school, but being his father's main reliance for help upon the farm he early sacrificed his higher education to the family interests, and began the life of a farmer while still in his teens. He was eighteen years old when he came with his parents to Michigan and remained his father's stalwart helper until he reached his majority. He began for himself empty handed, his iron constitution and robust strength carrying out all that his ambition dictated. He worked out by the day and did jobs for neighbors, chopping and clearing land for them. By frugality and industry he acquired sufficient means to buy eighty acres of land from his father, and in 1862 he built a frame house and made his home there. It was then all woods. In this home he has lived for twenty-nine years, and has added to his farm from time to time so that he has now two hundred and eighty acres all told. He has cleared off altogether one hundred and thirty acres for himself, and has chopped more than any other man in Berlin Township. He carries on mixed farming, raising both grain and stock, and has put many good improvements upon his place.

On November 10, 1861, he was united in marriage with Sarah Heater, a daughter of Daniel and Christian (Sapp) Heater. They were natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland, respectively, from which they came to Michigan in 1845, and settled on a wooded farm in Odessa Township. He succeeded in clearing up the farm and improving it. Mrs. Heater died in 1847 and her husband lived until 1873. They were the parents of five children, four of whom survive them: Mrs. Galloway, Mrs. Patrick, Mrs. McMullan and Jacob. Mrs. Patrick was born November 11, 1837, in Portage County, Ohio. She had her schooling in the dis-

trict schools of Odessa Township, where her parents were pioneers.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick have been blessed with five children, four of them being now living: Marian was born December 8, 1862; Frank, January 8, 1864, married Carrie Eddy, and lives on section 14, with his wife and one child; Celia, born September 27, 1872, died November 11, 1889; Allie, born February 20, 1875, and Myrtie July 4, 1878. All of these children have been given by their parents a good schooling and Marian has spent some time teaching in Berlin Township. Local politics are a matter of real interest to Mr. Patrick who votes the Republican ticket, but he gives his time and strength and thought to cultivating his farm, and has done a great amount of hard work. In 1886 he erected his present fine residence at an expense of \$2,400.



ALLEN B. MORSE, Judge of the Supreme Court of Michigan, is a son of the Hon. John L. and Susan (Cowles) Morse. His father was one of the early pioneers of Ionia County and was Judge of the Probate Court twelve years and a member of the Legislature. He removed to Iowa where he took a leading position also, being elected County Judge, County Auditor and a member of the General Assembly. Judge Allen B. Morse was born in Otisco Township, Ionia County, January 7, 1839. He was not only vigorous in mind but strong in body, with a natural inclination toward outdoor pursuits, which led him to such athletic exercises as kept him in good health while pursuing his studies. His favorite branch was English literature of which he became a master. Under the guidance of his father's strong mind his early education was conducted and it was supplemented by a course in the Agricultural College.

The study of the law was but fairly begun by Mr. Morse when the call for troops to defend the Union caused him to abandon it and join the army. He entered the service as a private in the Sixteenth Michigan Infantry, but in 1863 he was transferred

to the Twenty-first and after the battle of Chickamauga he was appointed Assistant Adjutant General. While on the staff of Col. Sherman he lost an arm at the battle of Mission Ridge. He went through the Peninsular campaign, and the soldierly qualities he manifested during his army life were such that on retiring from the service he had personal testimonials from Gens. Sherman and Sheridan.

After leaving the army Mr. Morse resumed his legal studies and during the year 1865 he was admitted to the bar. In 1866 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney for Ionia County and served two terms; in 1874 as a Democratic candidate for Senator, he carried a strong Republican district by a majority of twenty-two hundred and eleven. As a Senator he quickly became one of the leaders of that body. At the close of his career in legislative halls he resumed the practice of his profession and ere long reached the foremost rank. In 1882 he was elected Mayor of Ionia. In 1885 he was nominated by the Democratic party for Judge of the Supreme Court, his opponent being the noted Judge Cooley, an able jurist and law-writer, now of the Inter-State Commission. His majority over that gentleman was about thirty thousand and Gov. Alger endorsed the verdict of the people and appointed him Chief Justice to fill a vacancy. He assumed the duties of the office and is still discharging them with conscientious earnestness.

In 1874 Judge Morse was married to Miss Frances Marion Van Allen, and four children were born to them, whose names are, Marion, Van Allen, Lucy and Dan R. Mrs. Morse died in 1884, and in 1888 the Judge was united in marriage with Miss Annie Babcock, daughter of one of the early settlers of Ionia County. The residence they occupy is situated on a commanding eminence and the site was purchased by the Judge while it was still a forest. The home is a picture of domestic happiness and simplicity, and not the least secret of the Judge's popularity with the people is his devotion to his family.

There is no doubt but that Judge Morse is as strong a candidate for positions of honor and responsibility as the Democratic party can bring before the citizens of the State. In preparing his

legal opinions he is a forceful writer, having a plain matter-of-fact way that invariably captivates the reader. He is not given to verbosity or embellishment, always using choice Anglo-Saxon in his writings. He is recognized as a man of broad common sense and his erudition in the law is such as to commend him favorably with the great jurists and lawyers of the country. His oratory is characteristic, being plain, simple and direct, going at once to the point at issue and convincing by its very simplicity. The Judge is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic. He was prominently mentioned by the Democratic party in the fall of 1890 for the office of Governor—and would have received the nomination had he not absolutely declined.

The attention of the reader is invited to a lithographic portrait of Judge Morse, presented in connection with this biographical notice.



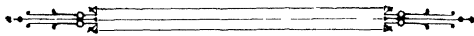
GEORGE H. ALLURED. For a number of years this gentleman has been connected with the business life of Ionia. He was born in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England, June 5, 1840, being a son of William and Sarah (Goodwin) Allured. The father was a tailor and followed the trade in his own country until 1860, when he emigrated to America. The mother died the year of the removal and the father passed away in 1864, in Kent County. The parental family was a large one, numbering fourteen sons and daughters, and George H. was next to the youngest. He has one brother and three sisters now living.

Our subject attended school until he was fourteen years old and then became an apprentice at the trade of cabinet-making. Not liking the prospects before him he embarked on the ship "Cultivator," of the White Star Line, and sailed across the ocean in 1857. After landing he came to this State and for a year and a half was located in Greenville, where he sold the first lot of ready-made coffins put upon the market there. He walked from that place to Ionia and found employment with Southwick Merritt, until he died, when as assignee he

took charge of that gentleman's business. The stock—cabinet goods and undertaker's supplies—now carried by Mr. Allured amounts to some \$4,500, and his present stand has been occupied by him eleven years.

In 1862 Mr. Allured was married to Miss Emeline M. Nichols, a native of the Empire State, and the union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: William H., Edith, Sylvester and Grace L. Edith is married to John C. Beatty, of Jefferson County, Mo., and Grace is now attending school in Kentucky. Mr. Allured has been a member of the Baptist Church for twenty-eight years, and his family is connected with the same religious body. He is Chairman of the Church Board. He is a Mason and Odd Fellow. He has been Tax Collector in Ionia.

Mr. Allured began cabinet making in this State when beds were made with round corners, and what-nots were first brought into notice and considered quite "the thing" in a well-finished house. He has continued his connection with the furniture trade, and for some seventeen years past has been a funeral director. He keeps the best goods in his lines, and in his undertaking business has proved to be one of those in whom the bereaved can place confidence, knowing that the last sad rites over their departed friends will be conducted with propriety. He belongs to the Funeral Directors' Association of Michigan and has filled the Chairs therein.



JOHN McQUILLIN. The only banking institution in Lyons, Ionia County, is that of John R. Dougherty & Co., of which the subject of this biographical sketch is Cashier. Mr. McQuillin is a competent financier and without neglecting the duties of the aforesaid position, he personally superintends a fine farm of one hundred acres not far from the town and takes an active interest in the various affairs pertaining to the prosperity of the county and State. His outlying property is finely improved and he has a beautiful town house on the corner of Tabor and Irish Streets.

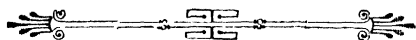
The parents of our subject, Francis and Catherine (Conlon) McQuillin, natives of the Emerald Isle, emigrated to America in June, 1845, during the infancy of their son John, who was born November 16, 1844. They came directly to Ionia County and the husband bought a farm in Lyons Township two miles south of the village of that name. On the forty acres of timber land he made a small clearing and built a log house 18x26 feet, and after setting up his home he proceeded with the development of the property. He subsequently bought forty acres adjoining and in 1866 added an eighty acre tract. He removed the timber from most of the first eighty and erected some substantial buildings, putting up a large frame barn in 1859 and a good residence in 1861. In 1868 while on his way home from a neighbor's the horse he was driving ran away throwing him out of the vehicle and causing his death. His widow is now a resident of Battle Creek.

The parental family included eleven sons and daughters nine living and two deceased. The eldest of the survivors is he whose life history will be sketched below. The others are Mary A., wife of John Dunn; Thomas who lives on the homestead; Francis, a farmer in Dakota; Kate, a milliner in Battle Creek; Mrs. Bridget O'Leary, a resident of Battle Creek; Theresa, Mother Superior of Mt. Carmel Academy in Chicago, Ill.; Edward G. and Charles, agriculturists in Dakota.

John McQuillin was reared on the homestead and received his fundamental education in the Lyons School. After completing the course of study there he spent two years in an institution of learning at Ypsilanti and one year in the State University at Ann Arbor. When eighteen years old he began teaching and during the ensuing twelve winters he gave his time and talent to pedagogy although he made his home on the homestead until he was twenty-six years old. For two years he was Principal of the High School in Lyons and he then in 1873, entered the First National Bank of Muir, in which he remained three years. An equal length of time was then occupied in discharging his duties as Cashier in the bank of William H. Freeman at Lyons and this was followed by an experience of six months as book-keeper in the bank of

Webber & Chapin at Stanton. After this apprenticeship in the banking business Mr. McQuillin with other citizens of Lyons bought the business of William H. Freeman and established the banking company of which he is Cashier.

The superior intelligence of Mr. McQuillin and his trustworthiness have led to his being called upon to serve his fellow citizens in official capacity. He has been Township Clerk twelve years, Township Treasurer one year, and several times President of the Village Board and a village Trustee. In politics he is an uncompromising Democrat. His home is presided over by the lady to whom he was married in 1873, prior to which time she was known as Miss Myra Pierce. This lady was formerly a resident of New York, but at the time of her marriage was living in Lyons, she being a daughter of Nathan Pierce. The family of Mr. and Mrs. McQuillin consists of four bright children who are named respectively, Florence, John F., Lawrence P. and Ralph.



THOMAS JOHNSON, a farmer of Odessa Township, holds an assured position among the agriculturists of Ionia County, with whom he has been identified for many years, working with them for the improvement of the county and the prosperity of future generations. He resides on section 28, adjoining the village of Lake Odessa, and has about one hundred acres of well-tilled land. Here can be found good grades of stock, substantial buildings and many modern conveniences. The present residence was built in 1880 and is of brick with two L's, each 18x26 feet.

Mr. Johnson was born in Lincolnshire, England, June 14, 1821, and is the second of the three surviving members in a family of seven children. The others are William, who lives in Odessa Township; and Mary Ann, wife of George Foster, whose home is in Donington, England. Their parents were John and Elizabeth (Crampton) Johnson, natives of Lincolnshire. The father worked at various occupations and for some time prior to his

decease kept an hotel at Donington. He died in September, 1828, in comparatively early life, but the mother lived to be quite aged she also dying in her native land.

The subject of this sketch was born in Donington and lived in that town until he was eighteen years old, when he bade his mother adieu and went upon a farm, working there three years. He had been left fatherless when but seven years old and had grown up under the careful and deeply affectionate care of his mother. He had received a common-school education and was prepared for all ordinary duties. After the period of farm life mentioned, he returned home and remained three years, busy-ing himself at various occupations. Being persuaded that in the New World he would have larger opportunities, he sailed for America, April 17, 1845, and landed at Quebec, whence he went at once to Rochester, N. Y.

For three years Mr. Johnson remained in that city working at whatever he could find to do, and he then went into the country and worked by the month, farming in the summer and laboring in the plaster regions during the winter. For four seasons he was in the employ of the same man, and he then worked on a farm in another neighborhood four entire years. The next move of Mr. Johnson was to come to Ionia County in 1855, in February following buying land where he is now located. He purchased eighty acres of untilled soil, which was in the wild condition that made it the haunt of Indians and forest animals. He at once began felling trees and preparing logs with which to build a house, and on May 6, 1856, he moved into his cabin home. Slowly but surely the clearing extended and the second year he had three acres of corn and in the fall sowed wheat. The entire tract comprising the original homestead has been cleared and twenty acres added, and now in place of the wilderness he sees around him the results of his labors.

When Mr. Johnson arrived in Quebec he had but sixty-five cents and he had with him a wife and a sick child. Notwithstanding the discouraging circumstances he kept up his courage, and incited by his love for his family and his ambition to make his way in the world, he pushed forward until he

reached the position of a substantial landowner. His purpose has not been accomplished without hardship, but he has had many things to cheer him on his way. He is now living with his children, having ceased arduous toil, and is enjoying the fruits of his former industry and the esteem of those to whom he is familiarly known as "Uncle Tom." He has been Pathmaster and Assessor, and politically is a Democrat.

In Donington, England, in 1843, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Jane Metcalf, who shared his fortunes until January 25, 1855. She died in Monroe County, N. Y., and was buried at Bellcoda. Of this union there were born seven children, four of whom are living, viz: Joseph, William, Frank and John I. In December, 1855, Mr. Johnson was married a second time, his bride being Miss Betsey Harkness, who became the mother of a son, Walter. This good woman shared with our subject in the trials of a pioneer life, but lived to see fortune smile upon them and the neighborhood become prosperous and well settled. She entered into rest August 4, 1880.



THOMAS E. JACKSON. This name will be recognized as that of the publisher and proprietor of the *Muir Tribune*, a sheet that was established in November, 1885, and, contrary to the prognostications of numerous citizens, lives and flourishes. It is a seven-column folio with a circulation of six hundred copies, and the patronage is increasing as the merits of the paper become advertised. "Ye editor" is educated, abounding in energy and the determination that conquers untoward circumstances and withal is blessed with tact and social qualities. Plain in his utterances regarding affairs that have a bearing upon the status of the community or the progress of the Nation, he is quick to discern redeeming features in the lives or words of others, and prompt to give "credit where credit is due."

The birthplace of Mr. Jackson was Unionville, Chester County, Pa., and the date of the event

September 6, 1859. His parents were Benjamin and Margaret Jackson, both natives of the Keystone State and life-long residents there. The father owned several farms and carried on extensive operations in the agricultural line. The parental family included four sons—Andrew, George, Thomas and Frank, and two daughters—Mrs. W. B. Bartow living in Milan, Ohio, and Mrs. Nelson Goodman, of Macomb, Ill.

The son of whom we write was a student in Downingtown, Pa., and after completing the course of study there he served three years at the printer's trade, and subsequently acted as foreman of the office most of the time until 1882. He then bought a half interest in the *Clyde Enterprise*, that being one of the leading Republican sheets of Sandusky County, Ohio. His partner was Henry F. Paden, and the two carried on the publication until October, 1883, when Mr. Jackson sold out for the purpose of studying medicine. He entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and steadily pursued his professional studies until after his junior year, when he returned home to spend his vacation.

During the visit our subject was prevailed upon by his brother Frank to buy the *Clyde Enterprise* which was for sale, and together the brothers entered upon the publication and editing of that sheet. They met with satisfactory success and continued the work until July 1, 1885, when our subject sold out and looked about for other fields of labor. In October of that year Thomas Jackson came to Muir and buying a small amount of material gave to the public the initial number of the *Tribune*. The townspeople said that he would be glad to leave the place within six months, as no paper could live on the patronage it would receive there; but still there are no signs of death in the journal. On the contrary the office has been furnished with more and better material, and surely, if somewhat slowly, success has been attained. Mr. Jackson has two assistants in the work of publication, and being a practical printer, as well as a ready writer, he has an advantage over some would-be publishers.

Whatever business worries may annoy Mr. Jackson he finds rest and refreshment in his home, where

an amiable and educated wife awaits him. This lady, formerly Miss Juanita Fletcher, is a daughter of Lemuel and Emma (Luse) Fletcher, natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively, and is herself a native of Clyde, Ohio. The rites of wedlock between her and Mr. Jackson were solemnized August 28, 1884, and mutual happiness has followed the interesting event. They have a cozy dwelling in Muir, of which village Mr. Jackson has been a board member for three years. He has gained a reputation as one of the most enterprising newspaper men in Ionia County, and in society is quite popular. His political influence is thrown with the Republicans.



PHILIP A. WACHS. Although this gentleman is not entitled to be numbered among the pioneers of Ionia County he has yet witnessed a vast improvement in the country since he came here. Of Odessa Township he may be called an early settler, as there he found large tracts of unimproved land and passed through the trials and hardships which are incidental to the development of a country, particularly when covered with heavy timber, as was the case here. He has a good farm on section 20, where many evidences of prosperity may be seen. The stock kept includes Short-horn cattle, Shropshire sheep, Percheron horses, and hogs that are also of good grade. Mr. Wachs also raises Plymouth-Rock chickens in considerable numbers. A noticeable feature of the estate is the attention paid to fruit culture, and the two thrifty orchards are beautiful as well as remunerative. There is also a sugar bush from which an average yield of one thousand pounds per annum is gained.

The earliest ancestor of Mr. Wachs in America was Peter Wachs, who emigrated from Switzerland in 1752, where he was born in 1738. He was a blacksmith, and followed his trade in Pennsylvania until his death, which occurred in 1832, when he was ninety-three years old. He had two sons: Philip and Henry, the former of whom was a farmer in Perry County, Pa.; he died the same

year as his father, being then fifty five years old. His wife was Magdalena Stauter, was born September 4, 1783, and lived to be about seventy-eight years of age. This couple had three sons who grew to manhood, the eldest of whom was Peter, the father of our subject. That gentleman was born in Perry County, Pa., and after growing to manhood engaged in farming in Richland, now Crawford County, Ohio. He cleared eighty acres of wild land there and added to his property until his farm included one hundred and twenty acres. It was thoroughly improved and was known as Hedge Row Farm. He also owned forty acres in Ionia County, this State. Mr. Wachs was a man of strictly temperate habits and was a consistent member of the United Brethren Church. Politically he was a Democrat. He died July 31, 1884.

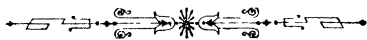
The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Lydia Bell, and was born in York County, Pa. Her parents were John and Mary (Richey) Bell, the one of Irish and the other of Scotch-Irish descent. Three of the ancestors lived to the age of ninety, two to the age of ninety-two years, and one to ninety years. In Crawford County, Ohio, in 1824, the father and mother of our subject were joined in wedlock. Mrs. Wachs was, like her husband, a member of the United Brethren Church. She breathed her last September 18, 1888. She was the mother of eight children, five of whom still survive, viz.: Philip A., Simeon R., Daniel C. and Darius A.; Sarah is the wife of James Nevil and lives on a part of the parental homestead in Ohio, while Simeon occupies the other portion; Daniel resides at Grand Haven, this State; and Darius in Morrow County, Ohio.

Our subject was born and reared on a farm in what is now Crawford County, Ohio, the date of his birth being July 10, 1836. He acquired a knowledge of the ordinary English branches in the district school of his neighborhood, and until he was of age he aided his father in the cultivation of the farm. He then went to learn the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he followed nine years. In November, 1865, he came to Ionia County and took charge of a farm which he had bought the year before, now known as "Orchard Farm." It consisted of eighty acres of wild timber land on

section 20, Odessa Township, and securing board near by he chopped and cleared for four years. During the same time he built a small house, 16x24 feet, and ten feet high, with the sides boarded up and down.

After completing his little dwelling Mr. Wachs thought it would be pleasant to have some one keep house for him, and returning to the Buckeye State he was united in marriage with Miss Martha A. Green, February 8, 1870. The bride was born in Hocking County, Ohio, was reared in such a manner as to strengthen the better qualities of her character, and develop in her habits of industry and domestic thrift. To Mr. and Mrs. Wachs one child has been born, Lulu E., who lives in the same township as her parents, and is the wife of Daniel A. Mourer. After his marriage Mr. Wachs returned to his farm and continued his efforts to develop it. By hard work he has personally cleared eighty acres, which has been placed under good cultivation, and he still has forty acres of timber.

Politically Mr. Wachs is independent, and for the last few years he has voted the Prohibition ticket. For several terms he acted as School Inspector. He and his wife belong to the United Brethren Church, and join earnestly in efforts to increase the membership and strengthen the society. They are known to a large circle and are generally respected.



WILLIAM D. PENNINGTON. The only furniture house in Lyons, Ionia County, is that of which the above-named gentleman is proprietor. It was established by the present manager, and after his return from the battlefields of the South he bought back the store and resumed the business. Since that time he has been doing a satisfactory trade, has somewhat increased his stock and has put up a good building, 22x50 feet, for his use as storage and salesrooms. Here a well assorted line of goods is to be seen, and here courtesy and business methods prevail. In addition to the furniture business, Mr. Pennington carries on undertaking. His building is on Main Street, and was

erected in 1882, and on Robinson Street he has put up a fine dwelling.

Mr. Pennington is of English and French descent, and both his parents and himself were born in England. The names of his immediate progenitors are Charles and Ann (Dieppie) Pennington, They came to America in 1842, and settled in Painesville, Ohio, whence they removed to Jackson County, Mich., in 1853. There they departed this life, the mother in 1860, and the father in 1872. Of their eight children six are living, namely: Charles, Mrs. L. Reed, John, Mrs. Mary McCrery, William D. and Mrs. Sarah Luce. Mr. Pennington brought to America a stock of goods worth \$6,000, but having a drunken pilot, the vessel was wrecked off Sandy Hook, and the goods were lost. The owner was therefore obliged to begin life in his new home with only his strong heart and willing hands, and his family had not the opportunities he wished to bestow upon them. After his removal to this State he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land lived upon the farm during the remnant of his days.

The gentleman whose life history is our topic, was born in 1835, and was a lad of seven years when he crossed the broad Atlantic. He obtained a limited education in Painesville, Ohio, but after leaving school never forgot his books, and as occasion has offered he has studied hard and been rewarded by accumulating a fine store of knowledge. He worked out on farms when strong enough, and continued that manner of life until he was seventeen years old, when he took up the study of the cabinet-maker's trade. He served an apprenticeship of three years, and then began journey work in the same town. Scarcely three months had been given to the work ere he came to Jackson County, this State, and here he entered the employ of M. M. Collimar.

A year was spent by Mr. Pennington in the employ of that gentleman, then he turned his attention to carpentry during a season, and next came to Lyons. From 1856 to 1859 he was engaged in business for himself, selling furniture and undertaker's goods, and acting as funeral director. The panic of the latter year caused so great a falling off in trade, that he sold out to Mr. Halsted, and for

some months worked for that gentleman. This was followed by labor for Mr. Henry Woodworth, for whom he made a complete set of furniture. He then returned to his parents' home and assisted on the farm for a time. When there seemed a prospect of reviving trade he returned to Lyons and established himself once more in his old business. In 1862 he disposed of the establishment and entered the army, enlisting in Company D, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, in which he served gallantly almost three years, being discharged when there lacked but one month of that period. He was one of the fortunate ones who were never captured nor wounded. He held the non-commissioned rank of Sergeant.

Mr. Pennington was married in 1859, to Miss Nancy T. Dougherty, and they have one son living, William D. This young man is in the naval service, book-keeper for the engineer of the man-of-war "Thetis." Mr. and Mrs. Pennington have a pleasant circle of friends, and show the interest expected of intelligent, public-spirited people, in the welfare of those about them, and the development of the place. Mr. Pennington is a Democrat, and identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Masonic order. He has served as Village Trustee in an efficient manner, and among business men and citizens has a good reputation.



LEWIS ANDERSON, the son of Anders Nelson, was born in Verneland, Sweden, and was a carpenter by trade, engaging in contracting and building. He also owned a small farm there. His wife bore the maiden name of Stina Larson. She was a native of the same section and died when our subject was only seven years old. This fondly remembered mother was an earnest and consistent member of the Lutheran Church. Of the four children born to this couple, three grew to manhood and one only left the Motherland to come to America.

This one, our subject, was born near Kalstad, February 9, 1831. His education was received in the national schools, and when thirteen years of

age he began working out. He spent four years learning the trade of the comb-makers. At this trade he worked for several years in Norway where he went in 1851 and established himself in Christiana, but the business was not flourishing and he took up stone-cutting and paving. He quickly learned this business and became a contractor, doing a good business in paving streets. In 1861 he went to Bergen and Christiansand and engaged in the same business, in 1863 located in Drammen, Norway, in the same line of work. He found abundant business there for seven years. During that time the city suffered a disastrous fire.

In 1870 times were very dull and the young man concluded that he would see if he could not find a better opportunity for work in the New World. He landed in New York, September 16, of that year. He worked for a short time in that city and the following spring went to Hartford, Conn., and secured work in a brickyard, but he did not remain there long, but went to Madison County, N. Y., in the employ of a railroad. A little later he emigrated to Illinois and found work of his own kind in the stone quarries of Lemont, Cook County, Ill. He now sent home for his family and upon their arrival he came to Michigan where he remained a short time at Howell. The same fall he went to Lansing where he was employed in building the State House until the spring of 1875, when he came to Montcalm County and located at Colby, being engaged in the sawmills.

Here in Home Township the subject of this sketch at last found a permanent home in the new country. In 1878 he bought an eighty-acre farm where he now resides. The pine trees had just been taken from it and he secured it for \$5 per acre. He has since spent his time in improving this property besides doing some work in sawmills and at logging and cutting shingles. Sixty-five acres of his eighty are now under good cultivation, neatly fenced into fields and orchards, and the house and barns are first-class. He carries on general farming and stock-raising keeping only good grades of stock. His good wife came with him across the ocean. She was Karen, daughter of Simon Nelson, a farmer in Setwey, three miles from Drammen, where he died on Christmas day, 1888.



Albert Williams

Mrs. Anderson's mother still resides at the old home in Drammen, having more than completed her four-score years.

Our subject and his wife have two children—Morten, born in Norway in 1865, was seven years old when they came to this country. When a lad of thirteen or fourteen years he began work in a sawmill and became a practical shingle and lath manufacturer. He is now in partnership with his father running the farm and is a very bright and capable young man, doing great credit to the family and relieving his father of much labor and responsibility. The daughter, Annette, is a graduate of the Edmore High School in the class 1888. She took a short course in Alma College, and is now successfully teaching a country school in her home district. The family are earnest and devoted Christians and while finding no church of their own denomination—Lutheran—in their vicinity, enjoy attendance upon the services of the Congregational Church to which they give their cordial support.



HON. ALBERT WILLIAMS. All who are familiar with the history of Michigan for the past forty years will recognize the above name as that of one connected therewith, as an eminent member of the bar, a stirring political worker and the occupant of positions of public trust and responsibility. He belongs to a family many of whose members have gained distinction for integrity, energy and ability, and so far as is known, not one has fallen below the average in brain power and good character, while a number have risen above it.

The original American progenitor of our subject was William Williams, a native of Wales, who crossed the Atlantic and settled at Stonington, Conn. He was a man of adventurous spirit and courage, and followed the sea, being a sea captain. He and his eldest son perished at sea and it was gravely suspected that they were the victims of a mutinous crew. The next in the direct line was the Rev. Henry Williams, who was born in

1746, and died November 20, 1811, at Leverett, Mass. He was a graduate of Yale College and a minister in the Congregational Church, renowned in the East for his piety and talents.

Dr. Henry Williams, the third in the line in America, was born in Leverett, Mass., in 1786, received a classical education and entered the profession of medicine. He won a high reputation as physician and surgeon and was also a popular speaker and the writer of good verse. During the War of 1812 he was assistant surgeon in a Vermont regiment of volunteers. June 14, 1808, he married Judith Corkins and to them were born eight children, named respectively: Henry, who died in infancy, Avery, Nathan, Eliza, Albert, Henry, Sally and George D. Bertrand. Of these Avery and our subject are the only ones now living. In 1827 Dr. Williams removed to New Berlin, Chenango County, N. Y., thence to Norwich, Solon, and finally to West Monroe, Oswego County, where he died April 16, 1843.

The subject of this biographical notice, who was the fifth in the parental family, was born in Halifax, Windham County, Vt., February 8, 1817. His home was at his father's house while the latter lived, although the greater part of the time after his early boyhood was spent away attending school, reading law and teaching. Several years were spent by him in the academies of Homer, Cortland County, and Mexicoville, Oswego County, N. Y., and in April, 1844, a year after his father's death, he came to Michigan. His first year in this State was spent in the law office of the Hon. R. McClelland and Judge W. Wing in Monroe, and there he was admitted to the bar April 14, 1845. He at once removed to Ionia County, where he continued his professional practice, save one year, from May, 1851, to May, 1852, in which last mentioned year he permanently settled in Ionia.

The first six years passed by Mr. Williams in Ionia County were spent in Otisco, and during that time he served on the County Board of Supervisors one year. From 1847 to 1851 he was Prosecuting Attorney, and in the spring of 1853 he was also elected Justice of the Peace. During 1853-54 he was Deputy County Clerk and performed all the duties of that office, and all the rec-

ords appear in his handwriting. In 1854 he was elected County Treasurer and re-elected two years later. In January, 1861, he again entered upon the work of Prosecuting Attorney; in January, 1863, having been elected, he assumed the duties of the office of Attorney-General of the State and was re-elected in 1864, holding the office four years. In 1869 he was appointed United States Court Commissioner, which position he still holds.

In 1876 Mr. Williams was the candidate of the Prohibition party for Gubernatorial honors, but notwithstanding his personal worth, the following of the party was too small to elect him. He stands well as a lawyer, the general opinion of him being that he is an able and safe counselor, and before the Supreme Court he has made arguments that have been highly complimented and add to the estimation in which he has been held by the Supreme Bench since his first appearance before it. His argument in January, 1865, in support of the constitutionality of the soldiers' voting law has been pronounced by an eminent jurist one of the clearest, ablest and most straightforward that has been made in the Supreme Court for many years.

As Attorney-General, the promptness and energy of Mr. Williams prevented the payment out of the State Treasury of at least one considerable illegal claim, connived at by dishonest officials. To him also is due the prevention of the revival of the old "wild-cat" Pontiac Bank, and the River Raisin and Lake Erie Railroad Company Bank, each of which had \$300,000 or more of worthless bills, ready to flood the Northwest. The citizens were saved the loss of thousands of dollars, whereby they would have been victimized had the banks been re-established. His action in this instance alone is sufficient to fully establish the integrity and faithfulness of Mr. Williams as Attorney-General.

Although always a strong anti-slavery man, Mr. Williams acted with the Democratic party until 1854. He had been a firm opposer of the Compromise measure of 1850, and four years later left the ranks entirely and joined the new organization—the Republican party. He was the only man from Ionia County who attended the mass meeting "under the oaks" at Jackson July 6, 1854, when the Republican party was organized in the State.

He was a member of the Committee on Resolutions and of the committee which presented to the convention a ticket that became the first Republican State ticket and that was elected in the fall of the same year. The older citizens will remember his services to his party during its infancy, when he took the stump in its behalf. The first elaborate Republican address printed and circulated in the State was written by him, and was so clear in its exposition of the principles of the party that it was largely used as a text document.

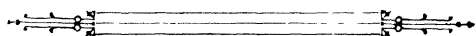
In 1870 Mr. Williams became identified with the National Prohibition party, transferring his allegiance because he believed that the days of usefulness of the old party had ceased. In his espousal of the cause of prohibition he put forth the energy that had been characteristic of him when working for Republican issues, and although he has not always won the race when put before the public as a prohibition candidate, he has on each occasion polled flattering votes. It is said that he has done as much for the parties with which he has affiliated by his writings and public addresses as any other gentleman in this portion of the State, and one who wishes to arrive at a clear understanding of the ideas and principles underlying the great parties of which he has been a member, would do well to carefully read some of his addresses and writings.

Mr. Williams was married to Miss Eliza A. Patterson, daughter of Capt. James Patterson, in West Monroe, N. Y., January 6, 1844. Mrs. Williams was a lady of brilliant intellect, varied and solid attainments and fine social qualities. She was also an earnest and active Christian and temperance worker. In every organization of the ladies of Ionia, whether for the promotion of charitable, literary or religious enterprises, she was one of the foremost and reliable members. Her earthly activity ceased July 24, 1879, but the influence left by her earnest life still lingers. Mr. and Mrs. Williams had four children, two of whom died in early infancy and a third—Fannie—in her twenty-first year. Mrs. Ellen W. Babcock, the sole survivor, is the wife of Burton Babcock of Easton, Ionia County, and they have two daughters—Frances, born in 1875, and Lucy in 1878.

Many poetical contributions from the pen of Mr.

Williams are treasured in the memory of his friends, and he owes it to the public to gather his verses and put them in permanent form. Mr. Williams is a generous-hearted, exemplary man, whose legal opinion has weight and who as a public officer was guilty of no oppressive or dishonorable act. He is unusually vigorous for one of his years and is therefore himself a living argument of temperance and of all that temperance means.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Williams appears in connection with this personal sketch.



JAMES TOTTEN, M. D., a physician of talent and ability, located at Howard City, Montcalm County, in 1887 and has in a few short years risen to prominence among her citizens. His practice is conducted according to the principles of the Homœopathic School, with which his judgment concurs, and his work has been successful, proving the judiciousness of his diagnoses and treatments.

Dr. Totten is a Canadian by birth and is a son of Thomas and Sarah (Sproat) Totten, who were born in Ireland and emigrated from the Emerald Isle to Canada in 1840. Thomas Totten was a farmer, but during the latter part of his life he devoted his talents to ministerial work in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died August 22, 1885. His widow still survives. To them there were born thirteen children: of these James is the eldest; Mary, wife of John Bond, lives in Manitoba; Thomas, in Kent County, this State; Henry and William, in Chicago; Alfred, in Newaygo County; George, with his mother; and Margaret, wife of Frank Lewis, in Canada.

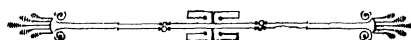
The natal-day of Dr. Totten was April 5, 1844, and his early years were spent in conning his lessons in the common school and working on his father's farm. He came to this State in 1864 and March 23 was enrolled in Company A, Twenty-Second Michigan Infantry, thus taking up arms for the Government under which he expected to live, very soon after he became a resident in its territory. He served until September 6, 1865, when he was dis-

charged at Murfreesboro, Tenn., with the creditable record in which all soldiers take delight.

Immediately after coming out of the service young Totten took up the study of medicine with Dr. Hayes, of Cedar Springs, Kent County, and read with that gentleman about three years. He then attended the Homœopathic College in Detroit and afterward practiced with his former tutor two years, then took up the work alone. In 1880 he took a course of lectures in Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in March, 1881. He practiced at Pierson, Montcalm County, until his removal to Howard City.

The home of Dr. Totten is presided over by a genial and intelligent lady who became his wife March 17, 1874. She bore the maiden name of Addie Welch and is a daughter of James Welch, a lawyer in Carey, Ohio. Doctor and Mrs. Totten have two sons—Ralph E. and Frank J.

During his residence in Pierson Dr. Totten was a member of the Common Council eight years, President of the Village four years and Township Treasurer one year. He is now Village Clerk of Howard City and is a health officer. He was County Physician in 1890 and has been connected with the Board of Health for a number of years. He holds a commission as Notary Public. Politically, he is a Democrat, and socially a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.



LEROY A. SCOVILLE, the Postmaster at Clarksville, Ionia County, is one of the most prominent men of that village and of Campbell Township. He was born in Montgomery Township, Marion County, Ohio, March 20, 1843, and is a son of Ashel A. and Mary (Lancaster) Scoville. The father was a native of Connecticut and of Scotch descent. The mother was of the same blood and born in Lancaster County, Pa. In 1855 this worthy couple emigrated to Michigan and located on the farm where our subject now resides. The father died in March, 1861, and his good wife had preceded him to the other world in November of the previous year. Of their four children two

only remain, namely: Leroy A., and Susannah Jane (Mrs. Charles Clark,) who resides in California.

Leroy A. Scoville was but twelve years of age when he came with his parents to Michigan. He was busy in the district school and on the farm until the death of his father, when he took charge of the farm although he was only eighteen years of age. He did not remain long at home, but soon went to Missouri where he worked in a blacksmith shop. The civil war had now broken out, and in February, 1862, the boy enlisted in Company F, First Missouri Cavalry, and was soon called to endure hardships as a good soldier. He participated in the battles of Jefferson City, Mine Creek, Lexington and took part in the Poindexter Raid. He also fought in the battle at Brunswick, Mo., which took place in a large blackberry patch. He met Quantrell's band when they were on their raids. He was wounded at the battle of Mine Creek, and served his full three years and received his honorable discharge at St. Louis, Mo., February 18, 1865.

After his discharge our subject returned to Ionia County, Mich., and settled upon the old home farm, which he worked until 1870 when he decided to rent his farm and remove to California. He settled at Woodland, Cal., and engaged in farming until 1874, when he returned to Ionia County and made his home upon the old farm where he has ever since resided. He has now two hundred and fifty acres of land, having added largely to the original eighty acres, which his father located. The farm is all in a good state of cultivation and has on it excellent grades of stock of all kinds. He keeps Lincolnshire sheep, and is also breeding Percheron and Hambletonian horses. He deals largely in buying and shipping stock and handles agricultural implements and buggies and also lumber and hardware.

Mr. Scoville's success in life is entirely due to his own exertions. He has been a hard worker and is now as always a public-spirited man, supporting public enterprises to the best of his ability. He owns four store buildings in Clarksville. He is a Republican in politics and is a member of the Republican County Committee, also the town-

ship Committee. He was appointed Postmaster in 1889. He has been Justice of the Peace for twelve years and was Township Treasurer three terms. He has been a member of the Masonic Lodge for twenty-five years, and a member of the Grange for three years. His marriage with Martha J. Hogle February 10, 1868, has been blessed by the birth of five sons: James L., is assistant in the Post-office; Eugene, Claude, Glenn H. and Fred. Mr. and Mrs. Scoville are well-known in the county and are held in the highest esteem by all.



SYLVESTER K. WELCH. The late Sylvester K. Welch was well-known in Ionia County, in whose prosperity he was a potent factor for many years. He was for some time interested in the mill at Portland, but his later years were spent upon a farm and he is perhaps as well known as an agriculturist as a miller. He left an estate of three hundred acres, upon which is one of the finest residences in Portland Township. The structure was built in 1871-72 and contains many modern conveniences, such as heating by furnace, etc. The fine property is now held by two sons—Almer and Ira, who have bought the interest of the other heirs, and who with other members of the parental family reside upon it. It will doubtless be many years before it passes beyond the Welch family.

Mr. Welch was born in Pawlet, Rutland County, Vt., May 3, 1821. His parents were Almer and Buelah (Kent) Welch and his early home was on a farm. In 1843 he came to Portland, this State, with his uncle Ira Webster, with whom he remained until 1851 when he established a home of his own, being married February 8 to Miss Sarah L. Hamlin. For a number of years of his marriage he was connected with Mr. Newman in the milling business at Portland, but as the occupation did not agree with his health, he abandoned it and took up farming. He had bought one hundred and sixty acres in 1849, and upon this he located, afterward adding to it until it became the large estate before noted,

The wife of our subject was one of the family of John and Phebe Hamlin of Portland, and was a lady of much intelligence who, prior to her marriage, was engaged in teaching. Husband and wife took much interest in the intellectual advancement of their children and taught them at home during the evening hours. The family consists of five sons and daughters, named respectively, Almer, Albina, Antoinette, Ira and Marion. All remain on the homestead except Albina, who is the wife of John M. Gibbs, a farmer in the same township.

He of whom this brief notice is commemorative, died March 8, 1880, and his wife survived until March 25, 1888. For many years Mr. Welch was Township Supervisor and for a long period he served as School Director. To his efforts is largely due the fact that the district school was kept up to a high grade of work and became one of the best in the county. He left to his family what is better than their worldly inheritance—a name and memory in which they can rejoice.



LUCIUS E. SHOWERMAN. This gentleman has passed through all the experiences of pioneer life, and well deserves a share in the credit due to the old settlers of Ionia County. He was brought here when a lad ten years old, at which time there were but three families living in Sebewa Township, those of Charles W. Ingalls, John Terrill and John Brown. At that time Sebewa and Portland Townships were one, and when the former was set off the first election was held in the home of his father. It is not necessary to enlarge upon his youthful experiences, and they were such as are common to the families of all pioneers, and have become an "oft-told tale." Mr. Showerman has been successful in his worldly affairs, and owns a fine property, his residence being on section 23, of the township in which he has lived since boyhood.

The Showerman family originated in Holland, and was established in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, who lived to the venerable age of ninety-six years. Jacob Showerman, father

of Lucius E., was born in Genesee County, N. Y., June 14, 1804, and was one in a family of twelve children. They used the ancestral tongue until they were grown, and even in later years made much use of that form of speech. Jacob Showerman was married in his native county, November 28, 1826, to Desire Tinkham, who was born in Schoharie County, February 1, 1805, and was of English lineage. Her father was an hotel-keeper. Mr. Showerman gave his attention exclusively to agriculture. In 1836 he came to this State, selected a tract of land and paid the Government \$1.25 per acre therefor. He returned to his home and continued his labors there until late in the summer of 1839, when he started to his new possession with his family, consisting of a wife and six children. From that time until his decease, he occupied a farm on section 22, Sebewa Township, Ionia County. He crossed the lake to Detroit, a trip that was very expensive in those days, though he brought only his household goods. Between the port and his destination he bought two yoke of oxen and two cows.

In making his way to his new home, Mr. Showerman traveled through by-roads that were sometimes scarcely passable, and the last two miles was cut expressly for the trip. The few cabins in this section were of the pioneer type, and it was four years ere there was a school in the neighborhood, although the Showerman children studied under the guidance of their aunt, Mrs. Melissa Brown, at her home in company with her family. Mr. Showerman cleared his farm of underbrush and dragged logs off the ground, then sowed his seed, after which he felled the timber. The crops raised in this way from the green were remarkably large, though of course in the windrows there was nothing. The wheat ground was prepared in the same way. As an instance of the success of the experiment, we may state that five hundred bushels of turnips were raised from one acre. The first year wheat was omitted from their sowing, but the next year it was raised in abundance, and they garnered about fifteen bushels to the acre among the logs. Few men with the same opportunities, and no greater advantages fared as well as Mr. Showerman.

The family of Jacob Showerman consisted of

eight children, four of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. These are Lucius E., the subject of this biographical sketch; Eugenia E., wife of William Benschoter, and living in Nebraska; Deborah J., now deceased, and formerly the wife of Benjamin Probasco; and Orlando V., who is represented elsewhere in this ALBUM. The father entered into rest August 15, 1875, leaving to his children the heritage of a good name. The mother died August 15, 1858.

Our subject was born in Genesee County, N. Y., February 4, 1829, and had only fairly begun his preparation for life's work when brought to the western wilds. His education was necessarily limited, but by means already mentioned and attendance in the district school when it was possible, he gained the rudiments of knowledge. He has never allowed his faculties to lie dormant, but by the use of the learning he had he has improved so that he has been well qualified to transact business, and has done much, both public and private. He has, however, always felt the need of a better education, and has been careful to bestow upon his children greater privileges than were possible to himself.

For a birthday present when he became of age Mr. Showerman received from his father the deed to forty acres of land on which he still lives. He afterward bought a forty of his sister, and later purchased his father's eighty. In 1885 he bought forty acres more, located a mile south in section 27. One hundred and forty-five acres of the property is well cleared, and on the home farm sixty acres was reclaimed from the forest by his personal efforts. Mr. Showerman has put up all the buildings on the land, and has a complete set, substantially built, and ample to accommodate stock and crops. He occupies the front rank among the farmers of this section of country, being equal to any in every particular, and in advance of the most in many ways. He has always kept good grades of stock, giving his preference to sheep-raising above all other stock work.

On New Year's Day, 1857, Mr. Showerman was married to Miss Matilda Steers, who shared his fortunes until June 28, 1865, when she closed her eyes in death. She had borne three children, but all died

in infancy. Mr. Showerman was again married September 26, 1866, his bride on this occasion being Miss Louise Granby, daughter of Chancy S. and Dolly (Sommers) Granby. Mr. and Mrs. Granby began their wedded life in Genesee County, N. Y., but came to Michigan about 1837, and settled on section 22, Portland Township, Ionia County. There their daughter Louise was born January 19, 1849, and there the father died five years after locating. The mother died at the home of her daughter August 15, 1878. Of the five children comprising the Granby family, but two are now living. John and Louise. The present wife of our subject has borne him three children, whose record is as follows: Frank J., born August 9, 1867; Ezzie M., June 5, 1874; Hugh D., September 24, 1881. Ezzie has been attending school in Portland. All show musical talent, and make their home pleasant to friends and strangers by their use of the organ and other instruments. The daughter plays the organ and the sons accompany her upon the harp, or relieve her on the organ.

When but twenty-two years old, Mr. Showerman was elected Township Treasurer, and for seven years he held the position. He was Supervisor six terms, and for four years he was Postmaster at Sebawa, being the second appointed to the position. He has been quite active in political matters, frequently serving as a delegate, and it is well-known to all his acquaintances that he is a supporter of Democratic policy. He and his wife are on good terms with all about them, manifesting the hospitable and cordial spirit which ensures friendship.



PETER VAN VLECK, a prosperous farmer of Ionia County, resides on section 2, Ronald Township. He was born in Delaware County, N. Y., near Middleton, October 22, 1824. His father, Mathew Van Vleck, was born in Ulster County, N. Y., May 18, 1794. His parents, John and Sarah Van Vleck, were natives of the same State. Upon the death of his father the care of the family devolved upon the widowed mother. October 10, 1816, when Mathew had

arrived at the age of twenty-two years, he married Miss Deborah North, who was born in Ulster County, N. Y., January 15, 1797, and soon afterward the couple settled in that county. A few years later they removed to Delaware, and in 1838 they came to Michigan and settled on three hundred and twenty acres of land in Ionia (now Roland) Township, Ionia County, which had been purchased in 1837. The journey occupied fourteen days' time from Detroit, ox-teams being employed and roads having to be cut in places. At that time there were but two families in the township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Van Vleck were born five children, as follows: John, February 26, 1818; Catherine, November 10, 1819; Sarah, April 22, 1822; Peter, October 22, 1824; Albert, October 1, 1826. Mr. Van Vleck lived to see the wilderness in which he had settled changed to fine, fruitful farms, and his children settled all around and within sight of him. The first death in the family was that of Mr. Van Vleck, which occurred April 24, 1880, and in July of the same year the death of the eldest son, John, occurred. Mr. Van Vleck made farming a business until 1854, when he retired from active labor and turned the care of the farm over to his youngest son, Albert. He remained upon the old homestead until his death, his only removal during his life in Michigan being "out of the old house into the new,"—from the log cabin to the more tasty frame dwelling. His widow still resides on the old place. Mr. Van Vleck voted for Andrew Jackson for President, and was subsequently a Whig and a Republican. For a number of years he held the position of Supervisor in his township, and was also the recipient of numerous smaller official favors. Both he and his wife were members of the Baptist Church, and in church affairs he always took much interest. He was greatly respected for his manly character and his generous qualities of heart, especially by those in inferior circumstances who partook of his bounty. His early educational advantages were those of the common schools of the time, and were somewhat limited. His memory and all his mental faculties were retained until the last, which, considering his age (eighty-six years), was a matter of wonder to

many. His life had been an even one, and he passed away quietly as he had lived. His father was both a farmer and a tanner.

The subject of this sketch obtained his first and only schooling in New York State. He was thirteen years old when he came with his parents to Michigan, and from that time until he reached his majority he freely gave his help in working the home farm. In 1845 he purchased the place where he now resides, and worked the farm four years before his marriage. That happy event took place December 13, 1849. His bride was Mirah A. Redington, who was born near Amherst, Ohio, April 22, 1832. When twelve years old she accompanied her parents, Nathaniel and Caroline (Salmon) Redington, to Michigan. They were natives of Massachusetts and spent the last days of their life in Michigan. Mr. Van Vleck was bereaved of her father January 20, 1854, but her mother lived until September 12, 1888, when she departed at the ripe old age of eighty-two years.

The subject of this sketch took his young wife home, to the place where he now resides, to a new house which he had just built. They have been blessed with three children: Mary, born December 17, 1851, now deceased; Rector, born February 8, 1853; and Cassius M., September 5, 1860. Rector married Betsey Swarthout; they reside in Ronald Township, and have three sons—Earl, Lavern and Leo. Cassius was married to Nellie Baker, who did not live long. His second wife bore the maiden name of Anna Huggins. The third wife was Julia Dodson, and the present Mrs. C. M. Van Vleck was in her girlhood known as Estella Dodson.

Mr. Van Vleck is the possessor of four hundred and forty acres of land in Ronald Township, and eighty acres in Montcalm County. He is still actively engaged in the farm work and carries on the business himself. He has given each of his sons eighty acres and has built houses and barns on their places for them. He has been longer in this township than any other man, and is considered the patriarch here. Here he has reared his family, and since his first coming here he has never been out of the township for more than four weeks at a time. His present residence was erected in 1869,

at a cost of \$2,500. He is a Republican in politics and active in all public matters. He was a famous huntsman in the early days, and once killed a bear within a mile of his house. Wild turkeys and other game were plentiful. His eldest brother, John, was a Baptist minister, and was for many years pastor of the Palo Church, which he was instrumental in organizing. Mrs. Van Vleck is a member of the Baptist Church of Palo.



PETER D. SNEATHEN is one of the old settlers of Ionia County who, through trials and discouragements, has persevered until he has made himself a home and a reputation in his community. He is a general farmer and stock-raiser, and resides on section 19, Boston Township. He was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., March 20, 1821, and is a son of John I. and Mary (Dumas) Sneathen, both natives of New York State, the father being of Holland descent and the mother of French blood. The father was by trade a cooper, which business he followed in the earlier part of his life. Later he entered upon farming in Onondaga County, N. Y., until his death, which occurred in 1860, at the very advanced age of ninety-one years. The mother survived him until 1872. They were both highly respected and useful members of the Christian Church. Of their six children, four are living, namely: Peter D., our subject, who was reared in New York on a farm, receiving a common-school education; Susannah, Caroline and Mary. Peter continued residing with his parents on the farm until he was twenty-two years of age, when he concluded to try his fortune in the West, so in 1843 he came to Michigan.

Our subject first located in Jackson County, this State, where he arrived in time to take part in harvesting, which was then going on. After this he worked through the winter at \$20 per month, and in the following January he came to Ionia County and purchased eighty acres of land in Keene Township. He then returned to Jackson County and worked out by the month in order to

earn the money to complete the payment of his land. He worked in the pineries for four or five years. While there he entered into an arrangement with some other men which he hoped would result in a successful purchase of land. He arranged to purchase a quarter interest in about six hundred acres of pine land, also a sawmill which was situated upon that land. He expected to pay his share from the lumber which he could cut from the land. He drew up the papers for this contract himself, and supposed that they were all right, but owing to the dishonesty of one of the men he was cheated out of his share of the lumber and suffered a serious set-back in making a start in life. While in the pineries he traded the land he had purchased in Keene Township for other land in Boston Township. This he afterward traded for one hundred and sixty acres in Campbell Township. He has traded farms several times since his residence in the county. In 1853 he purchased eighty acres of land and afterward added twenty acres to it, where he now resides. Only four acres of this had been broken before he took it. On December 28, 1853, he was married to Sarepta A. Train, after which he moved into a log house on his place and commenced the work of improvement.

Shortly after his marriage he left his farm to work on the railroad which was then being built. He worked two teams and built a shanty near the work. His good wife, anxious to help along in getting a start in life, left her own home and came here to board the men who were working on the road. She cooked for thirty men for three months. At the expiration of that time the contractor went away without making any settlement with Mr. Sneathen and he was never able to collect the money which was due them. They thus lost the board money of these men for all this time, which crippled them very much. They went back to the farm and went to hard work, and after awhile were able to pay for the groceries which they had bought for their boarders. He has continued to reside on his farm ever since, and by hard work and economy he has paid for his home and got it into a good state of cultivation. Some years ago he added forty acres more to his land. This he has given to his son. In 1870 he erected a large



Truly Yours
Wesley H. Smith

and commodious two-story brick dwelling, and he has on his farm good outbuildings for the accommodation of his fine stock, of which he carries good grades of all kinds. When Mr. Sneathen came to this county it contained but two stores and one grist-mill. Saranac contained one log house and a board shanty. The whole county has been cleared and improved, and he has seen it, year by year, growing in population, wealth and prosperity. Populous cities now stand on what was once the home of wild animals and Indians. Mr. Sneathen started in life empty-handed and with no help from others. He has succeeded in building up a good property and is so comfortably situated as to be able to retire from active service. He is by political principles a Republican.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sneathen, five of whom are living, namely: Fred B., a farmer in Charlevoix County, Mich.; Frank L., in the same county; Hattie, wife of Truman Parson, resides in Boston Township; Mark D. resides at home and works the farm. The youngest daughter, Luella, also resides at home. Mr. and Mrs. Sneathen are members of the Baptist Church. He always takes an interest in school matters and has been a member of the School Board.



JUDGE VERNON H. SMITH. This honored son of Michigan has been a resident of Ionia since 1858. He was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, December 29, 1838, and is one of eleven sons and daughters comprising the family of Ansel and Phebe (Cross) Smith. His parents, who were natives of New York, emigrated to Ionia County during the year 1860 and located in Orleans Township, the father being a farmer. He died there in 1873 and was survived by his widow five years.

The subject of this biographical notice was educated in the public schools and in 1860 entered the office of Registrar of Deeds in Ionia as Deputy. He proved so efficient in his discharge of his duties that he was elected Registrar for two terms. At the conclusion of that period of official life he

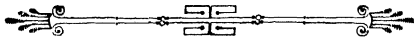
began the study of law under the tutelage of Hon. Lemuel Clute and in 1872 was admitted to the bar. A partnership under the style of Clute & Smith was formed and was in force until 1875, when Mr. Smith became Circuit Court Commissioner and had charge of the County Clerk's office as Deputy. In 1877 the firm of Smith & Sessions was established, which was dissolved by the election of the senior partner to the judgeship in 1881.

The opposing candidates for the position of Circuit Judge were Mr. Smith and Judge Lovell; the latter had been filling the position for nearly a quarter of a century. The career of Judge Smith on the bench was so successful that in 1887 he was re-elected in a strongly Republican circuit, although himself an outspoken Democrat. His circuit now comprises the counties of Ionia and Montcalm. He has presided during some of the most noted criminal trials ever held in this State, notably the Hall and Millard murder trials. In his official capacity he is incorruptible; no bribe or weight of influence being sufficient to cause him to swerve from a decision founded upon his knowledge of legal principles and the verities of justice. Judge Smith is regarded as one of the best circuit judges in the State, and manages his official duties with the same sagacity that characterizes his conduct of private business.

The residence of Judge Smith is an elegant one, built in 1877 on a plot of two acres, and the grounds tastefully laid out and adorned. Here he enjoys life, giving much time to reading, as he is a man of fine literary tastes and high mental culture. The lady who presides with grace and dignity over the affairs of the household was known in her maidenhood as Miss Rachel Worthington and became Mrs. Smith January 6, 1869. The children born of the happy union are Hal H., Arthur, Lawrence and Jessie. The present Mrs. Smith is the second wife of our subject, he having been married January 10, 1866, to Miss Lizzie Wright, who lived but a year.

The private character of Judge Smith is spotless and adds weight to his influence. He possesses fine social qualities and his home is frequently visited by the friends of himself and wife, who are numbered among the most cultured people of the

State. While in practice the Judge was an earnest and eloquent advocate, and was often called upon by his party during political campaigns, for he was recognized as one of the ablest political speakers in the county and made many effective speeches. He is a typical self-made man, who by the quiet force of persistent effort and the strength of an indomitable will, directed by business tact of a high order and sound discretion, has accumulated a handsome property and has gained the respect of all with whom he has been associated. His portrait appears in connection with this biographical sketch and will be considered by his many friends a valuable addition to this volume.



CLARK A. PRESTON. It has been several decades since this gentleman became a resident of Ionia County and quite a number of years since he took up his abode in the county-seat. Here he still makes his home, although for some time past his principal business enterprise has been conducted in Dakota, where he and a son have nine hundred acres of improved farming land, which they operate. Their agricultural and stock-raising interests are extensive and require the exercise of rare good judgment and persistent industry.

The parents of our subject were Ambrose and Orilla (Harris) Preston, natives of Vermont, in which State the Prestons had lived several generations. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812 and fought at Sackett's Harbor. His occupation was that of a brickmason. He died in 1835, and in 1844 the widow with her younger children came to Ionia County, Mich., where her son Benjamin H. had located a year previously. Our subject was born in Buffalo, N. Y., May 11, 1833, and was scarcely more than an infant when his father died. He was as well schooled as possible, both in the East and in Ionia County, to which he accompanied his mother. When but sixteen years old he began teaching in Kiddville and he then clerked four years for James M. Kidd.

In 1851 young Preston went to Missouri, where

he spent two years in professional work, teaching at Union, Richmond and Independence, respectively. Returning to this State he again accepted a clerkship with Mr. Kidd, in whose employ he remained eighteen months. His next move was to engage in the manufacture of saleratus at Saranac—a laborious process, as it was made from ashes by a method long since abandoned. During that time he was connected with Wesley Young in the dry-goods business, the firm being known as Preston & Young. The business was carried on by Mr. Preston two years, and the ensuing six months were devoted to teaching in the village of Lyons. In 1858 he was elected County Clerk and held the position four years, during which period he enlisted in Company I, Seventh Kansas Cavalry, the date of his enrollment being January, 1862.

Mr. Preston went out under command of John Brown, Jr., son of John Brown of Harper's Ferry fame, but after four months of army life was disabled by rheumatism and obliged to return home. During the year 1863 he was appointed County Treasurer to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of George Elsworth, and the next year was elected to the office. In 1866 he entered upon a mercantile career in Ionia, which he continued until 1879, when he changed his occupation to that of lumbering. The mercantile firm was first known as Stephenson, Preston & Co., later as Preston, Benton & Brooks and afterward as Preston & Merriam. He carried on lumbering until 1882, his home during two years of that period being on a farm in Sebewa Township. He next gave his attention to a Dakota ranch and has not ceased his labors in the new State, although retaining his residence in Ionia and spending the winters principally here.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Preston on New Year's Day, 1855, bore the maiden name of Sarah A. Cunningham. Her father, Joseph Cunningham, was a New England man who lived in Ogle County, Ill., for many years. Her mother died when she was quite small and she was taken into the family of her father's cousin, John De Lany. That gentleman is numbered among the first settlers of Ionia, to which he came in 1836 from the Mohawk Valley. Father DeLany is still

living, making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Preston. He was born September 20, 1799, and is therefore in his ninety-second year. Mr. and Mrs. Preston are the parents of seven children: Aubrey, who died in infancy; Minnie, who died in childhood; Hassie, a teacher; Thad B., manager of the Michigan Overall Company; Thede, who died August 3, 1885, at the age of twenty-two years; Bert, who died in infancy; and Nina, a teacher in the public schools.

The political affiliation of Mr. Preston is with the Republican party, although he has free trade proclivities. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Grand Army of the Republic. In 1859 he united with the Church of Christ, he and his wife becoming charter members of the organization in Ionia and he has ever taken an active interest in its workings. He is a well-respected citizen, and his wife and children likewise have good standing in society and number their friends by the score.



RICHARD WALLINGTON, although in advanced years is still an active member of society and is much beloved and venerated as one of the pioneers of Ionia County. "Uncle Richard," as he is called by his neighbors, resides on section 5, Keene Township. He is a native of Monmouthshire, England, where he was born September 8, 1819. His parents, John and Sophia (Pick) Wallington, emigrated to America in 1831, taking passage at Bristol on a sailing vessel called the "Ontario." After an ocean voyage of eight weeks they landed in Montreal, Canada. At the end of a year's residence in Canada both parents died there. Three of their children now survive—Richard, James and Edwin.

Young Richard was reared upon the farm and trained in the practical work of agriculture. When fifteen years old he began working by the month and worked in this way for several years, the most of the time on farms. His education had been received in England in what are known there as pay schools, corresponding to our private schools.

Mr. Wallington chose as his partner for life Catherine, daughter of John G. and Catherine Meyers. Their marriage took place in Canada, in October, 1846. By this union there were born three children—John, Lafayette and Charles E. In the fall of 1847 our subject emigrated with his wife to Ionia County, Mich., and made his new home on section 36, Keene Township, where he resided for many years. He bought there about eighty acres of land in company with an uncle of his wife, James W. Meyers, who now resides in Petoskey, Mich. The farm had a few acres partially cleared when he settled on it but its condition called for a vast amount of pioneer labor.

Our subject has served as Justice of the Peace and has also held school offices in his district. He has steadfastly labored for the upbuilding of the township in every worthy way. He is Republican in politics and has been ever fully alive to the progress of his party in the county. His success in life is largely due to the earnest and wise co-operation of his devoted wife. She was called from earth July 20, 1883, and left behind her a void which can never be filled. Her loss is mourned not only by her husband and children but by her friends and the whole community.

Lafayette Wallington married Martha Meyers and by this union there were born three children, Finley, Charley and Maud. He as well as his father is a Republican in politics. John Wallington, another son married Clarissa Beattie. They have three living children—James, Richard and Walter. This son espouses the principles of the Democratic party. The third son, Charles E. married Carrie E. Rose. He like his father and older brothers, adhered to the platform of the Republican party.

Our subject Richard Wallington, is a representative pioneer of Keene Township, and now in his ripe old age is enjoying the fruits of a life spent in doing good and in following out the principles of industry and frugality. He is universally beloved in the community where he lives and all wish for him a long life and comfort in old age. He has been an eye witness of the gradual growth of the township from a wild land to a prosperous community and can recall many an interesting and stirring incident of pioneer days. It is with pleas-

ure that we represent Mr. Wallington as one of the noble men now rapidly passing away, who in their prime converted what was a wilderness into fine farming lands and comfortable homes. Long after his form will be seen no more will his memory be green in the hearts of those who love and honor him. He is an example of that honesty, industry and integrity which have made the people of this land and the people of his mother country the foremost people of modern history. May "Uncle Richard" live to see the return of many summers.



GODFREY H. HUTCHINS has been doing good work among the citizens of Ionia County for more than a quarter of a century and is the well-known possessor of one of the best pieces of property in Odessa Township. It is pleasantly located on section 33, and is so arranged and kept up that even those who are not partial to rural life must admire it. Among the many farms in this section, whereon good buildings are to be found, this is conspicuous for the size and number of the outbuildings and the evident care that has been taken to cater to the convenience of those who occupy and operate it. Mr. Hutchins is extensively engaged in stock-raising, and among the improvements of his farm are two stock barns, one 28x50 and the other 30x40 feet, and a sheep shed 16x30 feet. The commodious frame house is twenty-seven feet square in the main, with a wing 16x21 feet and a wood house 12x20 feet.

The first of the Hutchins family known in America were five brothers, who emigrated from England many years ago. The father of our subject was Lawson Hutchins, who was born in New York. While living with his parents he was a farmer, but he afterward engaged in butchering, and continued in that trade until his death, which took place in 1847, at the early age of twenty-eight years. He had married Tressa Hess, who was of German and English stock, and who survived him and is now living in Odessa Township, at the age of seventy-four years. She made a second mar-

riage, becoming the wife of John Swarthout. She and her husband belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. By her first marriage the mother of our subject had three children, he being the eldest. The youngest, William L., is deceased and the second, Elizabeth, is the wife of Henry Root, a farmer in Odessa Township. By her second marriage Mrs. Swarthout had three children, but only one survives—Thomas, who is with his parents.

The subject of this biographical notice was born at Seneca Falls, N. Y., February 9, 1840, and was two years old when his parents removed to Wayne County. They had lived there five years when the husband and father died, and the widowed mother returned to her parents in Seneca County. There she remained until her second marriage two years later, when the family came to Lenawee County, Mich. During the next six years young Hutchins aided his stepfather in carrying on a farm and in the winter attended the district school. He was fifteen years old when he left his mother and made his home with an uncle in the same county, with whom he remained six years.

Upon starting out in life for himself our subject engaged to take charge of a part of the work in a general store and mill in Addison, Lenawee County, where he remained more than a twelve-month. He then hired out on a farm by the month until 1864, when he came to Ionia County. Upon coming hither he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, forty of which were improved, the remainder being heavily timbered. The only building on the tract was a barn, which is claimed to be the first building in Odessa Township. Mr. Hutchins rented his land and himself worked at brickmaking in Ionia one summer. He then married, and putting up a small frame house on the farm, commenced housekeeping therein and also took up the work of development of the surrounding acres. He now has eighty acres cleared and under tillage, and all in excellent condition.

In 1888 Mr. Hutchins platted seventeen acres of his land into town lots adjoining the village of Lake Odessa, and he has since sold seventeen acres more. He now owns a farm of eighty-six acres, whereon he makes a specialty of raising blooded stock, such as Holstein and Jersey cattle,

Shropshire and Merino sheep, thorough-bred Poland-China hogs and horses of good grades. He has about thirty acres of timber, in which is a sugar-bush of five or six hundred trees and he taps about three hundred maples each year. From these he averages eight hundred pounds of sugar per annum. In March, 1891, he put up a Champion Evaporator in the bush and he expects to market finer sugar than ever before.

Commencing his career at the foot of the ladder, Mr. Hutchins has reached a plane where he is enabled to live in comfort, and could do so were he forced to quit work. In his efforts he has been ably seconded by a good wife who joined her fate December 17, 1865. She bore the maiden name of Hannah P. Pearson. Her many estimable qualities have endeared her to a large number of friends and her Christian character gives her the respect of every acquaintance. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have had one child, a son, Loren D., who is now deceased. Both husband and wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and are quite active in work connected therewith. Mr. Hutchins is now Steward and has been Trustee and Treasurer. He voted the Republican ticket until 1890, when he cast his ballot for Prohibition candidates. Socially he is a Mason and Odd Fellow.



PHILIP DODSON. The life of this worthy citizen of Ionia County has been devoted to industrious efforts and he has probably done as much hard work as any man of his years. When he came hither and took possession of a tract of land on section 4, Ronald Township, he made a home in the midst of the forest, where the brush was so thick that he could not see the road from his doorway. He removed the dense thickets and the heavy timber, built fences and erected buildings, and brought his property up to a high valuation. He has no waste land on his estate and but thirteen acres that is not devoted to tillage. Conspicuous among the buildings is one of the finest barns in the county, which cost \$2,000 and he hauled all the lumber himself. It is 40x80 feet,

with nine-foot beams and a basement, and is twenty feet above. There were twelve hundred pounds of nails used in its construction.

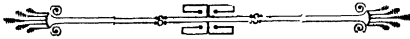
Mr. Dodson was born in Indiana County, Pa., May 14, 1826, and is a son of James and Jane (Cribbs) Dodson. His paternal grandfather, Michael Dodson, is believed to have been born in Maryland, and his maternal grandfather, George Cribbs, was a native of Germany. The parents were born in the same Pennsylvania county and took up their residence there after their marriage. The father died about 1885 and the mother some thirty-five years before. They had fourteen children, thirteen of whom grew to maturity and ten are still living. Philip is the third in order of birth and the eldest son. He remained in his native place until he was about sixteen years old and during his boyhood pursued his studies in the common school. He then entered the race of life for himself and going to Ohio found work as a farm hand, remaining in the Buckeye State twelve years.

Thence Mr. Dodson went to Noble County, Ind., where he bought a farm located southwest of Kendallville. He cleared thirty-five acres of the land and made several improvements, there being but a small log house on the place when he bought it. He lived there nine years, then came to Michigan in 1863 and located where he has remained. His first purchase here was of eighty-two and a half acres and he has since added eighty acres. Although it has taken much hard work to bring his property to its present condition he is well satisfied with the result, and had he his life to live over again would not be less industrious than he has been.

In Wayne County, Ohio, December 21, 1844, the marriage of Mr. Dodson and Miss Eueline Nye was solemnized. The bride was born in Vermont January 7, 1827, but her parents removed to the Buckeye State when she was but five years old and her education and training were received there. She has nobly borne her part in the affairs of life, devoting herself to the interests of her loved ones. Mr. and Mrs. Dodson have seven living children and have been bereft of three. The survivors are: Carrie, wife of George Trowbridge, whose home is

in Belding; Harriet, wife of Hiram Miner, whose home is in Palo; Alma, now Mrs. Edward Rork, also living in Palo; Harmon B. and J. Edward, who are residents of Palo; Willard P., whose home is in Hubbardston; and George D., who lives in Palo.

Mr. Dodson has made quite a study of political issues and is fully persuaded that the principles underlying the Republican party are the just ones and he therefore casts his vote in that direction. For the part he has had in promoting the growth of the county by developing her agricultural resources and elevating the standard of her citizenship Mr. Dodson is entitled to commendation and we are pleased to represent him in this ALBUM.



RAY J. TOWER. This name is well known in various parts of the Union to which machinery of special designs and for special purposes has been shipped. Mr. Tower is a manufacturer of machinery, including engines, drag-saws and Newton's patent log turner, and he has a large establishment in Greenville, Montcalm County. The plant is situated near the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad and the works are run by steam. It is the only machine shop and foundry combined in the city and affords busy occupation to from twelve to fifteen men. Mr. Tower is a practical man with a thorough understanding of machinery and mechanical principles, together with a capacity for managing men that makes his work run smoothly along and gives him the control of an excellent trade.

The parents of our subject were Samuel and Editha (Newton) Tower, who were natives of Vermont and Canada respectively. The father was a molder by trade and followed his occupation in the Green Mountain State prior to coming to Michigan in 1843. He stopped at Jackson for a time, building a scow, and then came down the Grand River to Grand Rapids, where he worked at his trade and later bought a machine shop and foundry. He carried on the establishment, employing a number of men until just before the Civil War. He then

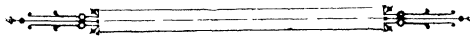
removed to Grattan Township, Kent County, was the first settler of that township, and took up land upon which he built a log house that was his home a short time. He then removed to the "Tower Homestead," which had been instituted by his father in Oakland Township, and which was known all over the county. There he remained until 1873, when he went South and spent a year in East Tennessee. Returning to this State he came to Greenville and bought the business now carried on by his son. He had a large run of custom and was financially prosperous. His character was excellent and his friends were many; he died in 1888, twenty-five years after his wife had been borne to the tomb. They had six children but only two sons—Isaac L. and Ray J., are living.

The Towers trace their ancestry back to England, whence the original American settler of the name came in the "Mayflower." Isaac Tower, grandfather of Ray J., a native of the Green Mountain State, came to Michigan before his son Samuel and was one of the first settlers in Oakfield Township, Kent County. He built the first frame barn in the township and it was a landmark for years, while the farm became widely known as the "Tower Homestead." Grandfather Tower was a man of active business habits and strict integrity.

On the old homestead in Kent County, Ray J. Tower was born February 1, 1859, and thence he removed with his father during his early youth. After he attained his majority his father turned his business over to him and his brother Isaac, and they continued in partnership until 1882. Our subject then bought his brother's interest and has since had the entire business in his hands. Mr. Tower has just bought the creamery near La Fayette Street, which has a capacity of from six hundred to eight hundred pounds of butter per day and gives employment to from six to eight men and from four to five teams per day, and he is interested in lands in the county and own two residences in town.

In 1888 Mr. Tower had the Christmas present of a wife, formerly Miss Linnie Baker, daughter of Charles L. and Sarah Baker, of Greenville. Mrs. Tower is a young lady of fine character, much intelligence and pleasing social qualities. She is a

member of the Baptist Church, with which her husband is also identified. Mr. Tower always votes the Republican ticket, and although not a politician in the ordinary acceptance of that term, he keeps well informed regarding the issues that are before the people and is able to give a reason for his political faith. His fund of general information is extensive, his business honor and tact unquestioned, and his reputation of the best.



CLARK L. DEMOREST. The farmers of Ionia County number among them this gentleman, who has been a resident of Otisco Township since September, 1840. His original estate here consisted of eighty acres of land entered from the Government, and to this he has added until the farm now includes one hundred and thirty acres. He camped with the Indians until he could put up a shanty of his own and he has a personal knowledge that belongs to few men in this part of the country, of the traits of the red man's character. In 1843 Mr. Demorest cut the first tree where Greenville now stands.

Lucas Demorest, grandfather of our subject, was driven from Holland on account of his religious belief, and with two brothers left so suddenly that their kettles remained on the fire. He located in the Empire State where his son Samuel, the direct progenitor of our subject was born in 1796. That son grew to manhood in Montgomery County and there married Annie Clark, daughter of Asa and Debbie (Perkins) Clark. Her eldest brother was Archie Clark, a soldier in the War of 1812, and one of her sisters married John Green, who was the founder of Greenville, Mich.

Samuel Demorest, upon coming to Michigan located in Lenawee, then removed to Washtenaw and two years later established himself in Ionia County. He here lived to celebrate his golden wedding. From his farm in Otisco Township he removed to Greenville and 1868, went to Missouri where he died in March of the following year, at the age of seventy-three. He was for many years a Deacon in the Baptist Church. He held all the

township offices except Supervisor. In 1849 he made a trip to California, driving through with an ox-team and being three months en route. In the company was a man who rolled a wheelbarrow through to the coast. To Samuel Demorest and his wife four sons and four daughters were born, viz: Clark L., Samuel L., Lyman, Valentine, Deborah, Angeline, Adeline and Frances. All are living, and all except Valentine, who is unmarried, and Samuel, are grandparents. Samuel was a Captain in the Union army and was promoted to be Major.

The birthplace of the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was Prattstown, Steuben County, N. Y., and his natal day November 25, 1819. In his youth he may have been said to have become a farmer, although his efforts were put forth from under the parental roof until he was twenty-three years old. A few years after his arrival in this State he took to himself a wife, having won the hand of Miss Sallie A. Thompson, to whom he was united December 29, 1846. This lady is a daughter of Allen and Sally (Kimball) Thompson, who were born respectively in New York and Vermont, and whose other children are Joseph and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson belonged to the Disciple Church.

Mrs. Demorest began writing her school compositions in poetry about the time she entered her teens and she has continued to indulge in poetical compensation, writing for various occasions. Several of her poems have been published in papers, among those entitled "One Hundred Years ago," "Thirty years ago," "Two Lost Lambs," "The Lost Alphaena," etc. The following was written by her for the pioneer meeting at Grattan, Kent County, June 2, 1880:

WHEN THE COUNTRY WAS NEW.

Ho, all ye old settlers, the brave and the true,
Come tell of the times when the country was new,
How you fared in your cabin so humble and mean,
Toiling early and late, without aid of machine;

How you labored for bread by sweat of your brow,
How the wardrobe of then would be hooted at now
By these sons and daughters enjoying the homes
Made by pioneer hands where the Indian roamed.

But no poet can paint all the ills we endured,
When shaking with ague and couldn't be cured,
With none of your dainties to tempt us as now,
With the appetite poor, and the work all to do;

When at night we would rest, the tinkling cow-
bells
Chimed in with the notes of the shrill whippoor-
will,
And then the mosquitoes, the worst of all things,
Who, seeking his prey, exultingly sings,

Half starved, like the owl had been resting all day,
And at night roamed about in search of his prey;
Now with netting, screen doors, and houses secure,
You never can know what we had to endure.

But those times are past, and many have gone;
They bore many burdens, but comforts had none;
And some of them pined for their eastern homes
And the kindred they left when West they had
come;

And several died within the first year—
Their lives were too frail for the hardships here—
Then in a pine coffin we laid them away,
With no hearse or fine casket to make a display.

But our tears were as sacred and our hearts as true
And we missed them the more with our numbers so
few;
And their children who came here so young and
fair
Are grandparents now with silvery hair.

Then honor the old settlers, for honor is due,
Who tilled these broad fields now waiting for you,
Who felled the great oaks that towered so high,
That the green waving grain might look to the sky,

Who built these nice dwellings and painted them
white,
Then burned up the log one away out of sight.
How fare they, these fathers and mothers so dear,
Do they sit by their firesides enjoying good cheer?

Do their children revere them and praise them
when old
For braving all danger, the heat and the cold?
No, those who are left are still toiling away,
And trying to help all their children to-day;

But the oldest have left us; they went one by one
We hope to a country where weary are none;
And when all our pioneer meetings are o'er,
May we meet, ne'er to part, on the evergreen shore.

MRS. S. A. T. D.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Demorest includes three sons and two daughters, of whom we note the following: Adelno W. lives on his grandfather Thompson's farm in Otisco Township; Allen T., occupies a farm at Wood's Corners, Orlean Township; Milon J. is farming near home; Clara M. remains under the parental roof; May N., who is married and has two children, lives near Woodard Lake. All are identified with the Christian Church, with which their parents have been connected for many years.

Mr. Demorest has held the office of Road Commissioner and Township Assessor and discharged the duties belonging thereto in a creditable and satisfactory manner. He was formerly a member of the Grange. In politics he is a Republican. He keeps himself well informed regarding affairs that are transpiring in the nation and in other countries, and continues to manifest a lively interest in that which promises to advance the welfare of the people. He and his wife are held in high respect and have many friends.



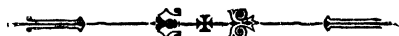
JOSEPH WATSON COURTER, who resides in Sidney Township, Montcalm County, was born in Essex County, N. J., July 18, 1852. He is the son of H. and Allis (Bowden) Courter, both being born and bred in Essex County. Here this boy spent his early life until his seventeenth year taking advantage of the educational advantages offered in the common schools, thus obtaining a good business education. His father then removed to Sidney Township, Montcalm County, Mich., and engaged in the lumber business, having his son's assistance in this work until the latter reached his majority, when he began working for Clark & RhinSmith, who were engaged in lumbering. In 1877 he established a home for himself, and going back to Newark, N. J., for "the girl he left behind him," he was joined in marriage February 22 to Alice Crane. They have become the parents of three children: Arthur E., born October 16, 1878; Anna M., July 22, 1881; Frank H., May 19, 1884. The eldest son, Arthur,



Orin Christ

was snatched away by death when only four years old.

The place where Mr. Courter now resides is the same to which he brought his bride immediately after their marriage. He at that time purchased one hundred and twenty acres, something less than one hundred of which was then unimproved. He has completed his house and built good barns upon the farm. In his early manhood he had large responsibilities in connection with his father's family, as first his mother and afterward his step-mother died leaving quite a family of little ones to be cared for by him. This trust he discharged faithfully and has proved a true elder brother to the younger members of the family. In politics he is a conservative Republican and votes for the best man who is nominated. He has served two terms as Supervisor by election, besides filling out one unexpired term by appointment. He takes an active interest in educational matters, has been School Trustee and has worked hard to get a new district set off from the Sheridan district. He finally succeeded with the help of citizens and neighbors in this endeavor by taking the matter before the Legislature of the State. He is a man who is resolute and determined in carrying out plans which his better judgment dictates and is a reliable and honored member of society.



JOSIAH E. JUST. In the business circles of Ionia Mr. Just is, by universal consent, accorded a high place. Eminently successful in a financial sense, he has throughout his entire career exhibited clearness of perception and soundness of judgment, and moreover enjoys an enviable reputation for moral worth and integrity of character. He possesses true public spirit and uses his influence to enhance the best interests of the city and county, and all worthy enterprises for their development meet with his hearty approval and cordial support. It is the united testimony of the people among whom he has passed his entire life that his course is such as to reflect credit upon the citizenship of Ionia County. As a

representative citizen, therefore, we present to our readers his portrait and the principal events in a life of more than usual interest.

A native of Ionia County, Mr. Just was born December 20, 1847, and is the son of James and Ann Jane (McClure) Just, natives of Ireland. The father and mother were married in the land of their birth and for their wedding tour crossed the ocean to America, landing in New York City. They went first to Orange County, N. Y., and engaged in farming, but after a short sojourn there removed to Michigan, stopping first in Jackson County, and finally in 1847 settling in Ionia County where they resided until their death. Mr. Just died April 3, 1883, and Mrs. Just passed away January 26, 1890. To them have been born six children: Ruth Ann, wife of Levi Broas, of Belden; William J., a lumberman in Ann Arbor, Mich.; Margaret J., wife of Prof. P. A. Latta, of Allegan; Dr. John G., practicing in Coral, Montcalm County, this State; J. E., our subject; and Isaac N., of South Lyon, Oakland County, Mich., manager of the banking house of J. E. Just & Co.

Josiah E. Just lived at home on the farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he entered the Lowell National Bank as a clerk. In 1870 he entered the banking house of S. W. Webber & Co., at Muir, as clerk and cashier, and remained there until 1872. He then became cashier of the National Bank at Lyons until the removal of that bank to Ionia in 1873. Then Mr. Just became cashier of the First National Bank at Muir until it was succeeded by the banking house of Webber, Just & Co. in 1878. He was connected continuously with Mr. Webber for twenty-one years as clerk, cashier and partner. At South Lyon they have a bank under the firm name of Josiah E. Just & Co., which was established in 1883. Mr. Just came to Ionia and organized the Ionia County Savings Bank in 1886.

On July 29, 1875, Mr. Just was united in marriage with Ella V. Fox, the daughter of M. H. Fox, of Muir. Mr. and Mrs. Just have one child—Nellie. They belong to the Presbyterian Church and are active promoters of all church interests. Mr. Just is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Royal Arcanum, Knights of

Pythias and National Union. He is always interested in public affairs and politically votes with the Republican party. He filled the office of County Treasurer for four years, from 1881 to 1884. A gentleman of pleasing address, unexceptionable manners and fine appearance, he is ever interested in the welfare of the community and bears his share in all good works.



WILLIAM H. MATTISON is a well-known citizen of Ionia County and is closely identified with the interests of the people of Ronald Township, in which he has lived nearly a quarter of a century. His farm on section 28, is one of the finest in the county, comprising two hundred and forty acres of land, and bearing buildings which include every structure necessary for carrying on his extensive farming and stock-raising enterprises. The barns are ample and substantial and the residence is a model of convenience and good workmanship. The latter was erected at a cost of \$1,400. Mr. Matteson has no incumbrance on his land, and all that he now owns has been secured by hard work, good management and frugal living when it was necessary. When he came to Michigan early in the '60s he had but \$22, and \$20 of this he immediately deposited in a bank, so as to draw interest and have something in store should accident befall him or other emergency arise.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Allen Mattison, a native of Connecticut and a Revolutionary soldier under Gens. Sullivan and Spencer. The father was Allen J. Mattison, who was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and married Lucy Thomas, who was born in the same neighborhood. That worthy couple lived in their native county until 1870, then came to this State to spend the remnant of their days. They located on section 35, Ronald Township, Ionia County, and there the father died. The mother is still living on the homestead with her youngest son—Daniel J.; she is now ninety-five years old. The parental family comprised three daughters and four sons, one of whom has been already mentioned. The first-born, Jefferey T., died

in California many years ago; Sarah, who is unmarried, is with her mother; Hamilton A. is a lawyer in Evansville, Ind.; Lucy P., wife of D. J. Greene, lives in Ionia; Rilla P., who married Julius Tibbetts, lives in Lyons Township. The next to the youngest child is our subject.

The birth of William H. Mattison took place in Rensselaer County, September 20, 1837. He received his schooling in the home district and when he was grown to manhood learned the trade of a carpenter. He taught two terms of school his native county, whence he came to Michigan in May, 1861. For four years he worked on a farm during the summer months and taught school in the winter. He bought a part of the farm he now lives upon and where he located before his marriage. There was but little improvement on it and he had much to do to make it valuable and productive. He has reclaimed twenty acres of swamp land, besides clearing and developing the higher ground. One of his most successful ventures has been sheep-raising, but he has shown a mastery of all the details of general farming and stock-raising.

November 14, 1866, is a date recalled with much interest by Mr. Mattison, as on that day he gained a wife. He married Miss Zilpah A. Van Wormer, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y., August 10, 1840, and grew to maturity there. She is the oldest of seven children born to Valentine and Anna (Cleveland) Van Wormer, natives and still residents of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Mattison have never been blessed with any children.

The first Presidential ballot cast by Mr. Mattison was for Abraham Lincoln and he has never voted other than a Republican ticket. He is a member of the County Committee of the party and was the candidate for Representative from the eastern district of Ionia County in the fall of 1890, but was defeated by one hundred and sixty votes. The first office he held in the township was that of School Inspector and he has also been Highway-Commissioner, Treasurer and Supervisor, as well as Sheriff of the county. To the last-named office he was elected in 1876 and he held the place four years. He was chosen Township Supervisor in 1887 and is still the incumbent of the position. Mr. Mattison is quite interested in Masonry, belongs

to Ionia Lodge, No. 36, and Ionia Commandery No. 11, K. T. He is also identified with the Patrons of Husbandry, in which organization he has held the office of Subordinate Master, and he was recently elected Master of the County Grange.



MRS. JANE FOULKS, an aged and venerable pioneer lady of Keene Township, Ionia County, on section 24, is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where she was born July 29, 1819. Her father, Thomas Renwick, was a native of Scotland, and her mother, Jane (Turnbull) Renwick, was born in the same land. Her parents emigrated to America immediately after marriage, and made their home in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. When she was eighteen years old her parents decided to remove to Brant County, Ontario, Canada, and in 1855 they removed thence to Ionia County, Mich., where they both died. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom are still living, namely: Mrs. Foulks, Walter, John T. and William.

The marriage of Jane Renwick and William Foulks took place in Ontario, March 17, 1841. Mr. Foulks was an Englishman, the son of Thomas and Sarah Foulks. He was born in England, May 22, 1816. When sixteen years old the lad emigrated with his parents to Ontario, Canada, and settled in Brant County. The union of this couple resulted in nine children, three of whom are living: John, William, and Adelaide, who is the wife of Emory Bowen.

Mr. Foulks brought his family to Ionia County, Mich., in 1856, and then settled upon the farm now occupied by his widow. A log cabin formed their first home in the new land. Here they made a happy home for several years, until he erected the handsome residence which now adorns the farm. He departed this life October 2, 1889, respected by all who knew him. In his death the county lost one of her best citizens and his family a loving husband and father. In politics he held to the Democratic party, and in local affairs was in favor of all progressive movements. In every relation in life he

made his mark as an upright and successful man. He was a man of sterling integrity and principle, and he believed in treating others as he desired himself to be treated. His widow is now residing on the home farm, and she is esteemed as one of the venerable pioneers and true Christian women of Keene Township. None know her but to love her.

Mr. Foulks at his death left a fine estate of one hundred and twenty acres, the result of a life of labor and industry. He was a man of extensive general information, well known for his liberality to all good and charitable enterprises and an obliging neighbor. He had a keen sense of honor and his integrity was never questioned. Although his form is now seen no more yet his memory is green among those who loved and honored him. That "Grandma Foulks," as his widow is familiarly called, may yet survive the snows of many winters is the sincere wish of her numerous friends.



EMORY A. RICHARDS. In every village, however small, the handling of drugs is an important business and the number of drug stores may often be taken as an indication of the growth of the town. The leading dealer in this line in Saranac, Ionia County, is the gentleman above named, who carries a well-selected stock, and makes it his constant aim to have the best drugs and compound them carefully. He was born in Van Buren County, February 26, 1845, and is the second child of David A. and Eliza A. (Finch) Richards. The other members of the parental family are Amelia, Albert, Celia, Otis and Frank. Amelia is the wife of Benjamin Collier a farmer in Boston Township, and Celia is the widow of Benjamin Spencer, of Oakland, Cal.

The parents of our subject were born in New York; one is of English and the other German ancestry. The father has been a minister of the Wesleyan Methodist Church for over forty years and during that time has had but five different charges. He has now reached the age of seventy two years and is living in retirement at Saranac.

He spent two years in California as an agent of the Conference and served in the Union Army one year. He came to Ionia County in 1865 and has resided here most of the time since. Politically he is a Prohibitionist.

Our subject resided with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age, going with them from Van Buren to Kalamazoo and later to Kent County. In the last named place he completed his studies in the High School, and before he left the parental roof he had taught five terms. He afterward taught three winter terms and worked on the farm in the summer. In 1870 he came to Saranac and for about nine months he was engaged in the grocery business. One side of the room was occupied by a drug stock, which he and J. A. Sprague purchased. The two gentlemen carried on the drug trade about two years when Mr. Sprague retired and W. H. Cushing became the partner of Mr. Richards. In 1873 the firm put up a brick building into which they moved their stock and which was the seat of their business about three years. William Whitney then bought the interest of Mr. Cushing. In 1885 Mr. Richards sold out and opened a drug store of his own and in May, 1890, removed to his present location.

Mr. Richards was married to Mary M. Findlay March 15, 1870. The wife is a daughter of John and Ann (Spence) Findlay, natives of Scotland, who came to America with their family in 1840. They lived in New York four years, then made their home in Kent County, this State. Mr. Findlay was a ship-carpenter and in his own country carried on his trade on the Clyde River. After coming to this State he turned his attention to farming. His death occurred December 15, 1889, a few months after his wife had passed away, she having breathed her last May 10, of that year. Both belonged to the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The living members of their family are Emily A., William, Margaret A., Mary M. and Hattie I. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Richards consists of the following named children: Fred A., Elon A., Kate E., May E. and Glenn E.

In exercising the right of suffrage Mr. Richards is a Prohibitionist. Socially, he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Royal Temperance Legion and the Knights of Pythias.

He has been Treasurer of Saranac, and has been Superintendent of Schools for two terms. He and his wife belong to the Congregational Church in which he is a Deacon and Sunday-school Superintendent, as well as chorister. Mr. and Mrs. Richards have an extended acquaintance in the county and are classed among the best citizens.



LEVI WATERS. The training of pioneer life encouraged the sterner virtues and developed characters which were courageous to meet the trials and discouragements which came with the daily life of the pioneer. Such a character is that of Levi Waters, and he has had indeed more than his share of the hard side of life, but he has met it in a way to insure the respect of all who know him. He was born in Steuben County, N. Y., April 7, 1827, and is the son of Stephen and Hannah (Malatt) Waters, both of New York. His first great and serious affliction was the loss of both parents when he was a little lad of eight years residing in Indiana. The little orphan was put to service as an apprentice at the tanner's trade, at which he worked for six years. His schooling amounted to almost nothing, and the education he has, has been gained since he reached his majority. He resides on his farm in Sidney Township, Montcalm County.

Mr. Waters' parents were living in Canada at the time of the Canadian Rebellion, after which they removed to Indiana and there were taken sick and as before said died within a short time. Two sisters also followed their parents to the graves, all being stricken down within six months. His apprenticeship was with a Mr. Pancake, near Wolf Lake, Ind., whom he served only a few weeks when his brother came and took him back to New York where he served six years to learn the tanner's trade. When he came to this State he found work in Kent County and remained there until twenty-five years of age. For nine years he operated his brother's sawmill, and spent considerable time in Grand Rapids working at his trade before removing to Montcalm County in 1865. Here he took a

farm of forty acres, cleared and improved it, building a house and stables.

December 30, 1848, the subject of this sketch married Adeline Abel, of Grand Rapids. Three children have blessed their home: David Leroy, born January 8, 1850; Luesa J., born January 7, 1852, is deceased; and Frances Addella, born February 18, 1855. This daughter is now the wife of John Ferman, of this county. It would seem that his early afflictions had been his full share for life, but more trials were to come soon after he settled in his new home, and while his son was quite young this child met with a serious accident. A little later our subject was struck down by a falling tree and his skull was broken by the blow. He lay as if dead for many hours, but the next day revived and recovered. He was also struck by a falling bucket in a well. His patriotic impulses prompted him to offer his services to his country in the hour of need, and he enlisted in a Michigan regiment but was rejected on account of ill health. He is connected with the order of the Patrons of Industry and also that of the Free and Accepted Masons. He has been Pathmaster and School Director and is now Moderator of the school board.



GEORGE PETTIT. The biographer has given us the record of Mr. Pettit as that of an honorable man, one whose fidelity to the right is unswerving and whose outspoken sentiments against wrong are known to all. Though perhaps not the master of many sciences and languages, he is an intelligent and well-informed blacksmith and merits the esteem and confidence of the citizens of Ionia County. Mr. Pettit is a citizen of Easton Township, and a native of Orleans County, N. Y., his natal day being July 17, 1833. His father is Reuben Pettit and his mother's name is Sarah, the former a native of New York and the latter of Vermont. Our subject was reared to manhood in his native State until about fifteen years old when he began to learn the trade of a shoemaker

and followed this until he was nineteen years of age.

Mr. Pettit received his education in the district schools of Orleans County and although he did not have the advantages which are now offered, he has by his perseverance acquired a fair education. In the fall of 1852 he came to Michigan by the way of the lakes to Detroit and from there to Ionia by stage. He had been in Ionia County about a year when he began to learn the blacksmith's trade and worked for Mr. Jones, one of the early blacksmiths and pioneers of Ionia City. For a number of years Mr. Pettit carried on a blacksmith shop of his own in Ionia City, and a portion of the time he employed one workman.

Our subject married for his first wife Melissa Lockman. December 10, 1880, he was united in marriage to Adeline Phillips, his second wife, who was born in Rochester, N. Y., September 15, 1843. She was a daughter of Wescott and Hannah (Bennett) Phillips. Her parents were of English descent and in the year 1856 they emigrated to Ionia County, Mich., and settled a short time in Berlin Township. They then removed to Saranac, where the father died in his ninety-fifth year. The parents of Mrs. Pettit were blessed with a family of five children: George, residing in Gratiot County; Gardner, living near Clarkesville, Mich.; Mary, Mrs. Stevens, now a widow, living in Berlin Township; Mrs. Adelia Smith, also a widow, of Pennsylvania; and Mrs. Pettit.

The father of our subject was married three times and of the children born to him the following survive: Simon, residing in Kent County, Mich.; Elnora, wife of John McFarland living in the same county; Lewis, residing in Grand Rapids, Mich., Francelia, wife of Lorenzo Fields, also living in Grand Rapids, and George.

Our subject enlisted September 12, 1861, in Company F, Second Michigan Cavalry and was under Polk and Sherman for a time. He participated in the battles of New Madrid and Island No. 10, and was honorably discharged July 10, 1862. After the service in the army he returned to Ionia County and settled in Ionia Township, where he followed for a number of years the trade of a blacksmith. Several years since our subject settled

on the farm which he owns at the present time, consisting of forty acres of fertile and productive land. As he was not started out in life under the beneficial influences of education and culture he consequently is not classically educated, but is intelligent and well informed. He is a strong advocate of the Democratic party and is public-spirited and enterprising. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic at Ionia City. His record, both civil and military, is honorable and it is with pride he recalls his past history.

Among the many intelligent and self-made men of Ionia County we take pleasure in representing our subject in this work. His business integrity and honesty are above reproach as all will testify who know him, and his word is considered as good as his bond. The biographer finds him to be an intelligent and progressive citizen and well versed in political and other topics of the day. He and his wife are highly respected members of society and are hospitable and entertaining.

JAMES L. WICKES. Among the stockmen of this State and particularly of the Central portion, Mr. Wickes is widely known as a member of the firm of J. L. Wickes & Co., breeders of Galloway cattle, Percheron horses and Rambouillet sheep. The address of the firm is Colby and they have one thousand five hundred acres of land which has been specially prepared for the purpose to which it is put and is one of the finest stock farms.

Mr. Wickes is the son of James H. and Maria (Tuthill) Wickes and was born in New York in 1828. His parents were natives of the same State as himself, and his father was a cabinetmaker and later a farmer. He of whom we write was educated at Eddytown (N. Y.) Seminary, and when ready to take up a man's duties gave his attention to farming. After a time he came to this State and engaged in the lumber business in Saginaw, where he had a successful trade. Thence he went into the interior of the State and dealt extensively in lumber and also put up some of the largest mills in Michigan.

After a varied experience he came Stanton, Montcalm County, in 1881 and formed the firm which has been already mentioned.

Mr. Wickes was married in New York to Miss Matilda Gutick and has one son, George Willard, an enterprising and prosperous young business man located in San Francisco. Mr. Wickes is a stalwart Republican. He is an official member of the Congregational Church and active in all work projected by that society. A man of more than ordinary intelligence, whose varied experiences have added to the keenness of his perception, he is a pleasant companion, and his character is such as to entitle him to the respect of his fellow-citizens, and at this writing he is serving the people of the City of Stanton as Mayor.

FRANK TAFT. Nearly sixty years ago, a boy of fifteen might have been seen going along the public highway with all his possessions done up in a red pocket handkerchief. He would go wearily a little way and then sit down tired and discouraged. A kind man coming along that road met him and entered into conversation with the lad, learned that he was an orphan, and that he had been making his home with his uncle, but had now started out for himself and was seeking a home and employment. The good farmer took him home with him and gave him kindly care and an opportunity to earn his living. After awhile he worked on the Erie Canal, driving horses on the tow-path and then drifted into Canada. This lad, John W. Taft, became the father of our subject, Frank Taft, who resides on section 33, Ionia Township, Ionia County.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Eliza Clark, and was a native of Monroe County, N. Y., where she was born in 1814. She was the granddaughter of Cephas Clark, a hero in the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. John Taft, after their marriage in Canada, lived there for some two years and he came alone to Michigan in 1836, when it was still a territory, and located a farm where our subject now lives. He bought eighty acres of raw land from Deacon William Babcock and split rails

for him to pay for it. At that time there was but one store at Ionia and it bore the high sounding title of "The Grab Store." The roads to and from this primitive home were marked by blazed trees.

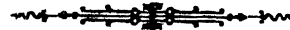
Mr. Taft worked for Philo Bates by the month, and after awhile went back to the East and brought his family here, being six weeks on the road with team and wagon. He continued working for Mr. Bates and Deacon Babcock through the summers. He and his wife had no wealth, but the earnest purpose and the willing hands which have made prosperous farmers from the poor pioneers. His brave wife took in sewing for her more wealthy neighbors to help along the family income. The work on his own place had to be done at early morning and late at night, so it would not interfere with his day's work for others. His good garden was attractive to his Indian neighbors, who were not as honest as they might have been, but used to sometimes avail themselves of the results of his industry.

All this brave effort and perseverance resulted in prosperity. At one time the father of our subject owned fully four hundred acres of good land. He built a frame house and was worth nearly \$50,000. They were members of the Free Will Baptist Church in which in early times he took great interest and held office, but in later years he became somewhat estranged from his church people. He was well informed on political questions and voted the Democratic ticket. Among other offices he held that of Township Treasurer and was also Supervisor and School Director, and was always enthusiastic in the promotion of educational interests. His death was sad and tragic. He left home November 31, 1866, on horseback to go to Ionia, where he intended leaving his horse and taking the train for New York. He reached Ionia, but beyond that point was never heard from alive, and it is supposed he was murdered at Ionia. His faithful wife survived until April 5, 1886. Of their nine children six are now living: George L., Riley, Sophia, (Mrs. Whiting), Arminda (Mrs. Dr. Gates), and Philinda (Mrs. Henry Corwell), twins, and our subject.

Frank Taft, of whom this is a life history, was born January 2, 1856, on the farm where he makes his home. After taking his early education in the

district schools he attended the Ionia High School for three years. After his father's death the family rented the farm until this son had finished school, when he took charge of it. He has two hundred and sixty-five acres of good land, two hundred and forty of which are under the plow. He built his house in 1876, and the large barn, 40x100 feet in 1884. He carries on mixed farming and gives his largest attention to the raising of stock. His favorite breeds are Shropshire sheep and Short-horn cattle. Since 1876 he has interested himself in Percheron horses. His first pair were bought from Zachary Chandler's farm.

The subject of this sketch was married December 25, 1880, to Mary J. Adgate, daughter of William Adgate, whose sketch will be found in this volume. She was born September 9, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Taft are the happy parents of four children, namely: Luetta S., born July 14, 1882; Jessie E., August 19, 1884; Myrtie M., September 26, 1886; and Leolin, December 10, 1890. They are both valued and conscientious members of the church and workers in the Sunday-school. Mr. Taft is always interested in educational matters and has been School Inspector and a member of the School Board. He belongs to the Royal Arcanum of Ionia and the Patrons of Industry. He is well informed on all political matters and votes the straight Republican ticket. He has been made a delegate to district and county conventions. Both he and his wife are deeply interested in temperance movements and he always has been strictly temperate in all his habits.



CHESTER A. SEARING. Among the native-born citizens of Ionia County who are carrying on the work of agriculture, is Mr. Searing who was born in Lyons Township, October 27, 1848, and is now living on section 22. His father, Nathaniel Searing, was born at Saratoga Springs, State of New York, February 17, 1814, and comes of the old Quaker stock. His mother, Louisa C. (Martin) Searing, was born in Ontario, Canada, December

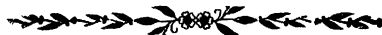
22, 1813. This worthy couple came to this State in 1838, and located in Ionia County, where they are still living. They built a log house on section 27, Lyons Township, improved the land around it and now have a fair and fruitful farm. They have had nine children, the names of those now living being Henry, Melvin, Chester A., James A. and Laura L.

Mr. Searing began his studies in the district school and continued the pursuit of knowledge there, alternating it with various labors upon the farm, and remained with his parents until he was twenty years old. He then established a home on the property he still occupies, taking possession of a log house that was the only improvement on the place. His farm includes one hundred and twenty acres which is in fine condition, with all necessary buildings, well made and kept in good repair, the chief of them being a fine two-story farm house. Mr. Searing now makes a specialty of raising fine swine, the breed he prefers being Chester-White. He also pays considerable attention to raising Oxford-Down sheep and Brahma chickens, and as he attends all the fairs, generally sells out quite closely in the fall, shipping to all parts of the State.

The lady who presides in the home of Mr. Searing bore the maiden name of Harriet Madison, and became his wife November 4, 1868. She was born in Easton Township, Ionia County, November 4, 1848, and is the youngest of three children making up the family of Granville and Anna M. (Bishop) Madison. Her father was born in New Hampshire, but came West when about fifteen years old, his father, Charles Madison, being one of the earliest settlers in this part of Michigan and one of the first in Oakland County. Mrs. Madison, mother of Mrs. Searing, was born in New York. Mr. and Mrs. Searing have two sons—Emmet, born July 26, 1871, and Guy F., born December 10, 1878. Both are at home aiding their father in operating the farm.

Although Mr. Searing believes in most of the principles that underlie the Republican platform and is a member of the party, he does not always cast a straight ticket, but votes for the man he considers most capable of serving the people. His life-

long residence in the township has given him an extended acquaintance and he has many friends far and near. Mrs. Searing is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is ever ready to perform good deeds.



NORMAN W. MATHER. One of the first steps taken by an intended locator in a town is to ascertain the banking facilities, a reliable institution of that nature being indispensable to one who expects to do a good business. Howard City, Montcalm County, is supplied with ample accommodations for all who wish to deposit or borrow funds, and it is of the proprietor of the establishment we propose to make brief mention. The banking house of N. W. Mather is a safe and flourishing one, that enters into no questionable ventures but is conducted on sound financial principles and backed by the almost twenty years' experience of its manager as a financier. The bank is fitted up with all the modern conveniences and improvements, including fire and burglar proof vaults and treasure chest, time locks, etc.

Mr. Mather was born in Livingston County, N. Y., October 30, 1840, and is a son of John C. and Betsey (Kellogg) Mather, who were born at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and Hartford, Conn., respectively. Their marriage took place March 9, 1831, when the groom was about twenty-four years old, he having been born April 9, 1807. To them were born nine children, seven of whom are living, namely: Mary, wife of Horace Armstrong, lives in Geneseo, N. Y.; Eliza A., widow of Dennis Burnes, residing in the same city; Julia A., widow of O. W. Day, her home being in Dansville, N. Y.; Amos R., a banker at Lake View, this State; Sarah, wife of Edward Hawley, at South Avon, N. Y.; Frances J., wife of A. H. Ayers of Howard City, this State; and Norman W., of whom these paragraphs treat. The father died December 1, 1877, and the mother is living at Geneseo, N. Y.

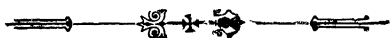
The school days of Norman Mather were passed at Lima, Rochester and Geneseo, N. Y., and at Rochester he took a commercial course. He gave



Respectfully
Hampton Rich

his attention to farming until he was twenty-nine years old and then entered a bank in the city that had been the scene of his business training. Thence he came to Michigan, locating in Howard City in 1872 and opening a private bank in February of the ensuing year. He does a general banking business in deposits, loans, collections and exchange, and also carries on a real-estate and insurance trade and the sale of ocean steamship tickets.

The marriage of Mr. Mather and Miss Mary Swem was solemnized September 4, 1878. The bride is a daughter of M. L. Swem, a farmer living at Coral but originally from Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Mather are blessed with one son, Carl, a bright lad in whose future they find cause for glowing hopes. Mr. Mather is a member of the Masonic order and is a Trustee in the Masonic Insurance Company of Grand Rapids. He is a Republican in politics. He has held some local offices, among them that of a member of the Town Council and Treasurer of the Village several terms, and to public duties brings the same business qualities that win success in his private ventures. He is highly regarded by his fellow-men and looked upon as one of the public-spirited and progressive citizens of the vicinity.



HON. HAMPTON RICH. The gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page is one of those whose knowledge of events in Ionia County extends back to pioneer times and covers a period of more than half a century. He came here in 1837 when a young man, led to this locality by a previous acquaintance with Lawson S. Warner. For several decades he was prominently connected with the civic affairs of the vicinity and with its financial interests, together with all the enterprises which promise to further the general good, such as schools, railroads, etc.

Mr. Rich was born in Shoreham, Vt., December 1, 1815, and is one of the ten children comprising the family of Samuel and Mary (Bailey) Rich. His parents were natives of the Green Mountain

States, and his father was a carpenter and served in the War of 1812 under Gen. Wade Hampton, for whom he named his son. Four members of the parental family died in childhood and two only are now living; he of whom we write and Gustavus V., whose home is in Canton, N. Y. The others died in various parts of the country, one Christiana Cadwell, in Ionia. Our subject was taken by his parents to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and thence to Prescott, Canada, where he was reared from the age of four years. In June, 1837, he turned his footsteps toward this State and reached Ionia July 7. He became clerk in a general store kept by Parks & Warner and remained in the employ of those gentlemen about three and a half years.

In 1839 Mr. Rich became Township Clerk and in 1843-44 he was Deputy County Clerk and Supervisor. He was then elected County Clerk, served two terms and afterward became clerk in the United States land office. In 1846 he entered upon his business career in connection with Edward Stephenson, the firm dealing in boots and shoes. A stock of clothing was soon added and finally the establishment was converted into one for the sale of general merchandise. The partnership was dissolved in May, 1853, and Mr. Rich carried on the business alone two or three years, then took in as partners W. B. Arnold and A. C. Cadwell. The latter soon retired but Mr. Arnold remained in the firm until the business was closed out in 1875.

In 1866, against his earnest protestations Mr. Rich was elected to the State Senate and re-elected in 1868. He had taken an active part in preparing for the construction of the railroad from Ionia to Lansing, and as Senator he succeeded in securing the passage of an act authorizing its building. Upon the organization of the railroad company he became President and retained the position several years, likewise discharging the duties of Treasurer. He was President when the road, which was organized as the Detroit & Lake Michigan, was built from Lansing to Greenville. He sold out his stock to the syndicate in 1871, when the road became the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad.

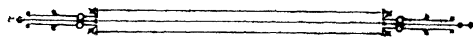
For several years Mr. Rich was a member of the School Board and he served as President of that

body for a considerable length of time. He adopted the plans for school buildings and personally superintended the construction of the High School, which is recognized as one of the ornaments of the city and is beautifully located on the hill overlooking the valley. Gov. Bagley appointed him in 1885 on the Commission to locate the State House of Correction and prepare plans therefor, and he succeeded in securing its location in Ionia. He was appointed on a new board to superintend the erection of the buildings and served continuously until during the administration of Gov. Jerome, and after an interim of three years he was again given aplace and is still a Commissioner. Mr. Rich has a decided talent for architectural designing and in addition to the buildings before mentioned he was designer of the Methodist Episcopal Church and superintended the erection of that edifice. He and his wife belong to this society and since 1840 Mr. Rich has been active in church work. In his early manhood he was a Democrat, but he was opposed to carrying slavery into the Territories or new States and the attitude of his party led him to abandon it and give his allegiance to the Republican party, since which he has been one of its staunch and prominent supporters in the State.

The marriage of Mr. Rich and Miss Jessie M. Stevenson was solemnized November 12, 1840, at the bride's home in Ionia. Her father, Jesse Stevenson, who was born in England, subsequently removed to Montreal and afterward came to Ionia in 1836. He was a shoemaker by trade. The marriage of our subject to Miss Stevenson was blessed by the birth of eight children, four of whom are now living, viz: Mrs. Emma M. Lowe and Mrs. Jenny A. Hurd, in Chicago; Edward A. in Ionia, and Hattie B. under her father's roof. The mother of this family passed away July 14, 1860. Mr. Rich was again married August 14, 1862, his bride on this occasion being Mrs. Charlotte Dygert, who was born in Utica, N. Y. To this union but one child has been born—Jessie, who died in infancy.

The respect given to Mr. Rich by those who know him is that due to a man who has been active in promoting the industries and interests of the city from the time it was a village of a few straggling houses with the land office as a nucleus. He

has expended time, talent and money for the general good, and has set the example of one diligent in business, pronounced in religious convictions and upright in life.



JAMES JOURDAN, like many other prominent farmers in Ionia County, came from one of the old farming families of Monroe County, N. Y. His father, George Jourdan, a native of that county, was the captain of a company of State militia. His mother, Eliza (Stotts) Jourdan, a native of New York, was from a family of German descent. After their marriage they resided for a short time in New York then, in 1839, came to Michigan and settled in Ionia Township until they could build their own home on section 13. He used to go to Pontiac with a grist, as this was their nearest mill. Upon this raw farm he had difficulty in procuring sufficient feed for his cattle, and was obliged to cut down trees so that they might browse upon the branches. In addition to these the family beds were robbed of their straw to help make a cud.

Mr. Jourdan built a log house and cleared all his one hundred and sixty acres of timber land before beginning to erect his frame house and put up other improvements. Capt. Jourdan's wife died the same year in which they came to Michigan. His second marriage united him with Ann Lester, a native of Canada, who died fifteen years ago. During his later years he resided in Portland, where he died in 1878, at the age of sixty-two years. By his first marriage he had two children, our subject and Mrs. Elida L. Baldwin. By his second marriage he had eight children, seven of whom are now living. His third wife was Mrs. Jane Miller. They had no children; she still survives him. Capt. Jourdan and his first wife were members of the Methodist Church.

James Jourdan came with his parents to Michigan when he was two years old, from his native home in Monroe County, N. Y., where he was born March 17, 1837. He attended school in one of the first log schoolhouses in this vicinity. Until his

majority he worked at home, and after that he was in the employ of John Probert, in Portland Township, for six months, at \$14 a month. In the spring of 1859 he visited New York State, but returned the same fall to Michigan. Taking a farm in Portland Township, on shares for a year, he put in a crop of wheat in the fall of 1861, but within a short time his patriotic feelings got the better of his ambition as a farmer, and he left the wheat in the ground and September 5, enlisted in Company D, Ninth Michigan Infantry as a private, and joining his regiment at Ft. Wayne went with them at once to West Point, Ky. After serving a year in the ranks he became a brigade teamster, and while thus engaged he drew supplies from Stevenson to Chattanooga. He then went back to his camp, and again became teamster at Gen. G. H. Thomas' headquarters. He took part in the battle near McMinnville, Tenn., against Gen. Forrest's cavalry, and was also in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga. He served the three years for which he had enlisted, and at one time suffered greatly from a broken collar bone. He received his discharge at the expiration of his term of service, October 14, 1864, at Atlanta, Ga. He returned to his father's home and went to work on the farm.

July 21, 1866, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Lydia Price, of Ohio, and a daughter of the Rev. William and Anna (Ganaga) Price. Mrs. Jourdan's mother was a native of Pennsylvania, and her father of Maryland. They had married in Ohio and resided there for awhile and then came to Michigan in 1860, where they settled for two years upon a rented farm in Ionia Township. Thence they went to Pewamo for one year, returning to Ionia where they lived for one year, and finally settled on section 11, Orange Township, on a farm of eighty acres. Soon after Mrs. Price's death, in 1876, Mr. Price sold out and removed to Montcalm County and settled upon a farm there. His second marriage was with Miss Lucinda Frost, who still survives him. He died in October, 1888, aged seventy-three years. By his first marriage he had eight children. His second marriage was blessed with two children.

James Jourdan's wife was born March 28, 1845,

in Wayne County, Ohio. She had received in Ohio a common-school education, which she improved to its full extent. Her parents were members of the United Brethren Church, and for over twenty-five years her father had been a prominent minister in that denomination. He was also a strong Republican.

After marriage our subject settled upon the farm he now occupies on section 13, Orange Township. It was all unbroken there, no roads, no houses, no conveniences of any kind. He built a small frame house and cultivated his farm of twenty acres. He now has eighty acres, sixty of which are under the plow. He has cleared it all himself and in many ways has aided his neighbors. In his early days of farming he had an ox-team, and had the proud distinction of being the only one among the neighbors who had this convenient though slow means of conveyance. Mr. and Mrs. Jourdan are the parents of five children: George L., who was born April 27, 1867, and is engaged in teaching; Florence R. was born April 8, 1869; Chauncey I., March 25, 1873; Artie A., September 29, 1875; and Veda M., August 1, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Jourdan have given to these children an excellent education. The eldest is a graduate of the Ionia High School, in the class of 1888. Mrs. Jourdan is a member of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Jourdan takes an interest in politics, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Portland, also of the Royal Arcanum at the same town, and supports the Republican ticket. He is a temperate man in all his habits and stands well in the community.



JUDSON BRIGGS. A prominent position among the residents of Edmere, Montcalm County, and especially her dealers, is that held by Mr. Briggs who has been engaged in the sale of merchandise here longer than any other merchant. He handles dry-goods, clothing, boots and shoes, and furnishing goods and has been very successful in building up trade and catering to the needs of the citizens. His

ability as a business man has oft been demonstrated and his forethought and care have been rewarded by gains that are sufficient to give his family all the comforts that heart can wish and many of the luxuries of advanced civilization. Better than this Mr. Briggs commands the respect of his acquaintances as a man of business integrity and irreproachable private character.

Before giving the chief incidents in the life of Mr. Briggs it will be well to speak of his parents, Noah and Sarah (Kenyon) Briggs. His father was born and reared on a farm in Rutland County, Vt., but learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner and worked at it in Genesee County, N. Y. In 1836 he came to this State bringing a wife and five children, and journeying through Canada with a one-horse wagon. He located in Allegan, then a village just beginning its existence, and engaged in contracting and building. He was the principal builder there six years, after which period he settled on a farm in Monterey Township, Allegan County. The country was so little developed that he had to make a road four miles to reach the Government tract he entered and on which he put up a log house. He worked at his trade and hired his farm labor done, and in process of time had a well cultivated farm of two hundred acres. In 1865 Mr. Briggs moved to Kalamazoo County and settled on a farm two miles from the county-seat, where his son H. C. was living. That son was a leading lawyer, and Prosecuting Attorney and Probate Judge, each eight years. Mr. Briggs was an active member of the Baptist Church and was Deacon for years prior to his death in 1874. He held the office of Justice of the Peace and Supervisor, being the first in the latter station in his township. Mrs. Briggs died in that township; she was born in Genesee County, N. Y. Their children were seven in number and all sons.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Monterey Township, Allegan County, this State, November 4, 1845, and lived on a farm there until he was nineteen years old. During his early life he coned his books in a log school-house with slab benches and a desk around the wall and learned how to do many things belonging to farm life, even when quite small having some part

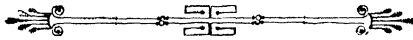
in the home work. He went to Kalamazoo with his father and making his home under the parental roof he studied in the Union School in the city until he was of age. He then became clerk for his brother in Allegan and sold dry-goods two years. The next employment of Mr. Briggs was as book-keeper for the grain and milling firm of Merrill & McCorty, of Kalamazoo, with which he remained some three years. Returning to Allegan he next became book-keeper and assistant cashier in the First National Bank of that place, holding the position two years.

Mr. Briggs then entered upon a business career as a principal, engaging in the sale of general merchandise at Sand Lake, Kent County, including groceries and mill supplies. After a year he sold out and rented a mill at Allegan that he ran two years, at the expiration of which period he concluded to resume the occupation of a merchant. In the fall of 1879 Mr. Briggs came to Edmore and established himself in business and by his straightforward and honorable dealings and careful consideration of the wants of the people soon built up a fine trade. He has always a well-selected stock and occupies a central location, on which he built his store building, which is twenty-two feet wide and eighty deep. Besides this property he owns four acres on a hill, from which his residence commands a pleasing view.

The marriage of Mr. Briggs was solemnized in Brockport, N. Y., in 1873, his bride being Susie R. Fisk. This lady was born in Hamlin, Monroe County, N. Y., received a good education and other instruction which fitted her for the duties of life; she was a graduate of the State Normal School. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs were the happy parents of six children—Louie A., Virgie M., Clayton R., Burr B.; and Nathan F. and Glenn F., deceased.

Mr. Briggs was Village Trustee eight years and is now Treasurer. For years he has been School Inspector and School Director and was a member of the Board when the new schoolhouse was finished. He was a member of the committee in whose hands was placed the putting in of the water works and he has also been connected with the fire department as Superintendent. Politically, he is a true-hearted Republican and has served as a

member of the County Central Committee and a delegate to the county and State conventions. His religious faith led him to become a member of the Baptist Church, and he is now Trustee, Treasurer and Clerk, as well as Deacon of the organization in Edmore. He was a member of the building committee who had in charge the erection of the house of worship and he contributed liberally toward the building fund. He has been Sunday-school Superintendent for years and is active in every work connected with the good of society. His influence is felt throughout the entire community and his efforts are always expended on the side of elevation, moral and social.



DE WITT C. HUNTER. This worthy representative of one of the old families of Ionia County is widely known throughout the Grand River Valley as a successful farmer and stockraiser. He is located on section 33, Keene Township, on land that has been his home since 1856. It was taken possession of by his father that year, and the son grew to manhood here, gradually bearing a greater part in the farm work and eventually becoming thoroughly qualified to carry on the estate. He was born in Oakland County, March 27, 1847, and his parents were William G. and Sarah (Porter) Hunter. The father was born in Orange County, N. Y., and was of Irish and English ancestry. He came to this State June 3, 1826, and made Oakland County his home until the fall of 1856, when he removed with his family to the farm now owned by our subject, where he lived until his death which occurred March 25, 1886, in the seventy-fourth year of his life. He was a Democrat in politics and a Presbyterian in religion. He was twice married, the children of his first wife being James I., deceased; Charles P., De Witt C., and Sarah, wife of H. A. Cutler, sheriff of Lake County.

Our subject's mother was born in Ireland and came to this State when a small girl, Oakland County being her home from the time she came until her death. She died April 6, 1849, being in

her twenty-ninth year. With the exception of two years spent as a clerk in Lowell, De Witt C. Hunter has been engaged in farming since his boyhood. He received a common-school education, and since he became a man has kept himself well informed regarding subjects that are of general interest. He was married September 3, 1872, to Jennie Cheyne, daughter of Andrew and Agnes Cheyne, and a native of Northern Michigan. Her father is deceased and her mother is living in Ottawa County. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter have one son, Earl, who was born August 11, 1873.

The farm of Mr. Hunter consists of eighty acres, every rod of which is made useful or beautiful by careful cultivation or judicious management. He has had the opportunity of accepting the nominations of Supervisor or Clerk on his ticket, a number of times but has always declined the honors. He is a Democrat in politics, but in local elections casts his vote for the man and not the party. He is a member of the Grange, and is found taking a part in various projects in which the neighborhood is interested. As an agriculturist he is progressive and intelligent, as a business man he is honest, and and as a citizen law-abiding. Among the leading families of Keene Township none are more worthy of a place in this ALBUM than the Hunters, who are respected members of society. Probably no family in the State know more of the hardships of pioneer life than they.



LEVI W. LOVELAND, a prominent farmer of Ionia County and now a resident on section 10, Otisco Township, is a lifelong resident of the county. He was born here March 25, 1863, and was educated in the public schools prior to his fourteenth year. He was then attending the Ionia High School, but on account of the financial circumstances of the family he was obliged to abandon his studies and set about the work of life. His father had died six years prior to this time. Upon leaving school the lad entered the employ of C. E. Rust, proprietor of the Rust Fruit Farm, and during the three years in which he

worked for that gentleman he lost but three days' time and was never late but once. At home he aided his mother to raise garden truck, which she marketed, and within the three years a debt of \$1,000, with interest at 10 per cent., had been paid off.

After this purpose was accomplished young Loveland engaged in small fruit growing and gardening for himself, cultivating five and one-fourth acres for three years. He was very successful in this work and was able to make some progress in the accumulation of funds. At the expiration of the period mentioned he located on the farm three-fourths of a mile from Belding, which is still his place of residence. He now has one hundred and twenty-one acres of good land, and has platted ten acres as an addition to the town. His property is well improved and his home abounds in creature comforts.

The lady who is the presiding genius in the dwelling of Mr. Loveland became his wife November 4, 1885, prior to which time she was known as Miss Eliza Horrigan. Her father, Michael Horrigan, was born in New York and was married in that State to Susan Clements, a native of England. Their family includes Mrs. Loveland; Henry J., a lawyer in Ionia; Laura E., a teacher in the same place; and Edgar A., who is still attending school. Mr. Horrigan has been Deputy Sheriff, Deputy Oil Inspector, and Justice of the Peace in Ionia County. He is now living in the county seat and is proprietor of a music store there.

The parents of our subject were Levi and Betsey (Lamson) Loveland, who were born in the Empire State and resided in Ohio for some time. They removed from that State to this about 1850, making their journey with an ox-team. The husband bought two hundred acres of land here. Mrs. Betsey Loveland belonged to the Methodist Church, They afterward both joined the Disciple Church, of which they were members at their decease. The husband was a Master Mason, enrolled in the Ionia lodge. The members of their family were Levi W., the subject of this notice; Carrilla, who now lives on a farm in Berlin Township; and Julia, deceased. The parents of our subject were born in Connecticut, removed to New York, thence to

Huron County, Ohio and thence to Michigan, as stated above, where Grandfather Loveland died July 27, 1872. Mrs. Loveland subsequently came to Belding with our subject, and breathed her last here January 27, 1887.

The office of Township Treasurer is now held by the subject of this biographical notice, and he has already served in that position one year, and was also re-elected for a second term with a large majority. He belongs to Belding Lodge No. 68, I. O. O. F., and is also identified with the Independent Order of Foresters, in which he has been Recording Secretary. He is a believer in the principles laid down in the Democratic platform, and always deposits his vote in its interest. He is a young man of good judgment, general intelligence and honorable character, and as such is correspondingly esteemed.



HENRY FRACE. This gentleman is one of the leading business men of Ionia County, the center of his mercantile pursuits being Saranac. He has always been a close applicant to business and has steadily climbed the ladder, never flagging in his efforts to obtain good results and reach a position where competence would be secured. He has been in the West a quarter of a century; during much of that time his home has been in Saranac. He has done much to build up the town and has shown a degree of public spirit and liberality in giving, that commends him to the people. In the spring of 1889 he introduced into this State the Dutch Belted cattle, of which there but five hundred and twenty-seven registered animals in the United States. The breed was first imported from Holland about fifty years ago, but only the above number have been kept pure blood.

Mr. Frace was born in Northampton County, Pa., in August 1845. His parents, Peter and Mary (Messenger) Frace, were also born in the Keystone State and both were of German descent. the father died in 1859 and the mother followed him to the tomb in 1863. They were members of the Dutch Reformed Church, Their children were but

two—our subject, and Alice now the wife of D. G. Huhn of Saranac. The father was a farmer and amid the associations of rural life our subject passed his early years. He first studied in the district schools and later attended the academy at Easton which was not far from his home, and also the Lafayette College. In the latter institution he studied the languages and became quite conversant with several tongues. He made his home upon the farm until after the death of his mother, which took place when he was eighteen years old.

Young Frace began his real work in life as assistant teacher in Easton (Pa.) Collegiate Institute, where he remained until June, 1865, and to which he returned after taking a thorough commercial course in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. In the spring of 1866 he made a permanent removal from his native State and took up his abode in Saranac. His first business here was clerking for J. J. Young, in whose employ he remained until August 1868, when he established himself in the clothing business. After carrying on the establishment three years he sold out and within a few months was located in Detroit, working for Allen Sheldon & Co. In September, 1873, he returned to Saranac and engaged in the dry-goods trade. The ensuing year he erected a brick store forty-five feet deep, and his trade increasing so that still more room was required for his stock, he built on thirty-five feet more in 1876.

Mr. Frace carried a stock of general merchandise until 1880 when he formed a partnership with D. G. Huhn and in 1883 they bought another store and put in a stock of groceries. The two departments were carried on separately until 1886, when the firm bought the large two-story brick building now occupied by Mr. Frace. In this is now to be found as large and complete an assortment of goods as in any store in the county. Mr. Frace was one of two men that put in the rolling-mill plant of Saranac but he has disposed of his stock.

In 1878 Mr. Frace put up one of the finest residences in the county, wherein he and his family enjoy all the comforts and many luxuries of life. The lady who graciously receives visitors there is a native of Ionia County and bore the maiden name of Mary A. Shaw. She became the wife of Mr. Frace in August, 1870. To them there have come

four sons, who have been named; Claude, Guy, Howard and Ray. Mr. Frace has always supported the principles of the Democratic party. He is a charter member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Saranac, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and also the Knights of Pythias.



REV. A. J. COMDEN, a minister of the Gospel and an active farmer, resides in Douglas Township, Montcalm County. He is British by both blood and birth, having opened his eyes on this world November 2, 1841, in Devonshire, England, within two miles of Torquay. His parents were Thomas S. and Jane Tucker Comden. His brothers and sisters were Thomas S., Mary, Sarah, Maria and Eliza. They all lived in England until the subject of this sketch was about thirteen years old, when they removed to Canada and in 1855 settled on a farm which is now in the region known as the consolidated counties of Durham and Northumberland.

This boy had early been inured to hardship and severe labor, as he had worked out on wages ever since he was nine years old. He worked on the new farm in Canada until he reached his 24th year when he struck out for himself and started in life in Oakland County, Mich. He went there in October, 1868, and industriously and perseveringly labored in that county until 1880, when he removed to Montcalm County and settled in Douglas Township.

While still living in Canada Mr. Comden took to himself a wife, being in 1866 united for life to Sarah Widdess, whose birthplace was Cartwright, Canada. His children are as follows: Eliza J. born October 21, 1866; Lizzie S., January 16, 1868; Mary M., July 23, 1869; George F., May 1, 1872; Samuel J., 1874; Lillie A., November 11, 1879; Martha E., July 25, 1881; Charles T., July 23, 1884, and Fred A., April 23, 1887.

This gentleman has pursued a double avocation, cultivating the land and being also engaged in the ministry of the Gospel. He has been pastor of Langston Circuit, Ionia District, Michigan Con-

ference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in whose ministry he has served for ten years. He takes an intense interest in all educational matters and appreciates the superior advantages which are now offered to the young. He tells how he acquired his own education. After working hard all day he would sit up at night and study in the wee small hours. Mr. Comden has been Assessor of his district for nine years. He is an earnest worker in the Sunday-school and has organized a number of schools. His fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres attests his industry and enterprise.



JOHN W. FORTUNE. One of the handsomest homes in the rural districts of Ionia County is that of the above-named gentleman, located on section 2, Ionia Township. The dwelling was erected in 1883 at a cost of \$2,500, and is a tasteful and convenient structure, whose furnishing accords with its design and construction. Attractive as the residence is, the most conspicuous building upon the land is a large barn, which is probably not excelled in the State. It was built in the most substantial way, and arranged to afford the utmost convenience to those who use it, and the best possible accommodations for stock and fodder. It was planned by Mr. Fortune himself and built some five years since.

Mr. Fortune is of Scotch blood in the paternal line and comes of a line of men who devoted themselves to farming. His grandfather, John Fortune, brought his family to America in 1818, and settling in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., did pioneer work there. He lived to the venerable age of ninety years, for twenty-five of which he was obliged to go on crutches. In his family was a son George, who was born in Scotland in 1809, and after growing to manhood married Susan Wright, who was born in New York in 1808. This lady was the daughter of Timothy A. Wright, a native of the Empire State and a farmer by occupation, who died at a good old age.

In 1836 George Fortune first came to Michigan.

He took up a farm in North Plains Township, Ionia County, cleared twenty acres, and built a log shanty in which he lived two years. He then sold his claim, returned to New York, married and remained there a number of years. In 1854 he returned to this State, bringing with him his family and setting up his home on section 3, Ionia Township and county. He rented a farm four years, then changed to another rented tract, but on the latter he remained but a year. His next removal was to the farm now occupied by his son, our subject, and here as on the others, he occupied a log house. He returned to section 3, and remained there until he came to make his home with his son sixteen years before his decease, which occurred in 1886. For many years he was a sufferer from inflammatory rheumatism. The mother of our subject died in 1869.

The parental family consisted of five children, John W. being the fourth in order of birth, who opened his eyes to the light in Orleans County, N. Y., November 9, 1847, and was a lad of seven years when he came West. Here he attended school in a frame house on section 3, which has since burned down. When eighteen years old he began the battle of life empty-handed, and his first effort was to pay off a mortgage for his father. He worked by the month seven years, during which time he was prudent and economical, as well as industrious and faithful. He finally bargained for a farm, incurring an indebtedness of \$2,300. This he paid off as fast as possible, and he now stands upon a firm financial basis, with a beautiful home and all the conveniences necessary to carry on successfully the work of general agriculture. He has fifty-six acres in the home place and eighty in Ronald Township, one hundred and sixteen of the entire tract being under the plow.

The efforts of Mr. Fortune have been ably seconded by his wife since their wedding day, December 5, 1870. The marriage took place at the bride's home in the Empire State. She was born in Niagara County, February 23, 1848, bore the maiden name of Corlie Elvira Pike and is a daughter of Emory E. and Sally Elvira (Wright) Pike. She received a good education, taking the higher branches in an academy, and taught five terms in



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A. F. Bell.

her native State. Her parents were natives of Massachusetts and Vermont respectively, but were married in New York, where they subsequently lived. Mr. Pike was a farmer and cooper; he died in 1887 at the ripe age of eighty years. Mrs. Pike also lived to be quite aged, dying in 1885 when seventy-nine years old.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fortune seven children have been born, but two have been taken from them by death. The record of the living is as follows: Augustus Emerson, born April 9, 1873; Susan Elvira, September 30, 1875; Victor F., November 28, 1880; George W., June 4, 1886; Sarah Adelaide, November 4, 1890. They are receiving excellent school privileges and the two eldest are making good progress in their studies at Ionia. These two belong to the Christian Church.

As is indicated in his financial progress, Mr. Fortune has been a hard-working man and one whose habits have been thrifty and careful. Strong in body and mind, he has so conducted himself as to be able to give his family every comfort and many privileges, and take a part in whatever benevolent work will be for the good of the community. His habits are exemplary, his character honorable and his standing high. He has always been interested in politics and is an unfailing supporter of the Republican party.



HON. ALEXANDER F. BELL. It is always a pleasure to note the incidents in the career of a man who has won that which is better than silver or gold—the honest admiration and esteem of all who know him, either personally or by reputation, and who, in his declining years, can look back over a long life well spent. Such an one is the Hon. Mr. Bell, who stands as the Nestor of the bar of Ionia, and who, although his work at the bar is ended, gives much aid to the younger members of the legal profession, who go to him for sympathy or seek his counsel in intricate cases. He is living in retirement, as far as an active participation in business affairs is con-

cerned, but his interest in his fellow-men is as deep as ever and his knowledge of affairs as extended.

Mr. Bell traces his lineage, both in the paternal and maternal lines to Scotland, from which country his grandparents emigrated prior to the Revolution. Both families located in New York, and in the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys their families lived for many years. James Bell, father of our subject, became a farmer and operated the homestead that had been entered by Grandfather Bell and which is still in the family. To him and his wife, formerly Anna Ferguson, eight children were born. Three are now living, Colin F. being a resident of McGregor, Iowa; John F. remaining on the homestead, and Alexander F. living at Ionia. The middle name of each of these gentlemen is Ferguson, the mother's maiden name. Their father died in 1839 and their mother in 1826.

In Saratoga County, N. Y., August 5, 1812, the subject of this biographical notice was born. He remained on the farm until he was nineteen years old, gaining some knowledge of practical studies and a good understanding of farming. He then entered Johnstown Academy where he remained a year, after which he took his place in the Sophomore class in Union College. After a year of study in that institution his health was so impaired that he gave up his studies, went South and became assistant teacher in Lownsboro Academy, near Montgomery, Ala. A year later he returned to his native State and resumed his college course among the Juniors. He was graduated in the class of 1835, among his associates being a number of men who attained to eminence.

Mr. Bell became assistant teacher in Lawrenceville (N. J.) Academy, but retained the position only a year, after which he entered a law office in Canajoharie, N. Y. In 1836 he came to this State and located for practice in Lyons, becoming a partner of Adam L. Roof. The partnership continued until 1840, when Mr. Bell came to Ionia and opened an office. Although he had been engaged in professional work he was not admitted to the bar until after his arrival here. He became known as one of the ablest lawyers of Michigan and was engaged in his full share of notable cases. The Hon. C. W. Whipple once said of him that he pos-

essed one of the most logical minds in the State, and that in the examination of legal questions and in the preparation of important cases for trial, he had few equals. Before a jury his talents were not conspicuous, but in the discussion of a legal question before the court he performed his part with rare tact and signal ability, having a well-founded confidence in himself. He is uncommonly familiar with the railroad legislation of the State and with the leading English and American railroad cases, and few lawyers are his peers in that branch.

In 1847 Mr. Bell was elected to the Legislature and among the law-makers of the State he was one of the most active and influential. He watched carefully over the interests of his constituency and accomplished much in their behalf. To him belongs the credit of accomplishing an object which seemed very foolish to the masses, that of the removal of the Capital from Detroit to Lansing. His proposal to locate the State House "in the woods" on a school section, was thought by some to be chimerical, while others treated it a huge joke. Many have lived to see the wisdom of his policy vindicated.

In 1851 Mr. Bell was candidate for Circuit Judge, but was defeated. Two years later he was appointed Registrar of the United States Land office at Ionia under President Pierce and retained the place four years. The same year he became Assistant Attorney for the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad of which he was also a Director prior to its transfer to Canadian control. In 1858 he was an unsuccessful candidate for Senator. He was President of the Board of Ionia in 1865-66. He has had considerable business at Washington, D. C. having been a member of the "Third House," sent there in the interests of railroads. He was a pronounced, outspoken Douglas man in the exciting days before the Civil War, was a member of the Charleston Convention of 1860 and also a delegate to the adjourned convention at Baltimore. He has been public-spirited in a broad sense, his interest including schools, churches and moral efforts, as well as railways, street improvements and public buildings. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. As a friend he is strong and reliable, and his disposition leads him to as sincere a dislike to

his enemies. In the last Presidential election he voted for President Harrison, being in favor of protection.

At the bride's home in Portland, this State, September 12, 1839, Mr. Bell was married to Miss Elizabeth Boyer. Mrs. Bell was a lady of rare native talent and goodness of heart and had a strong social influence. She died in Ionia July 11, 1886, at the age of sixty-three years. She had borne her husband seven children, two of whom died in infancy; Mrs. Ellen Yates in 1887, at Cleveland, Ohio, and James, March 21, 1891, at Petoskey. Mrs. Yates was the wife of Col. John B. Yates, who, with his regiment participated in Sherman's march to the sea. The surviving members of the family are Mary, the wife of James C. Jennings, who is connected with the State House of Correction; Annie, wife of Frank C. Sibley, Water Commissioner in Ionia; and Lizzie, wife of Seymour B. Gorham, a lumberman of Ionia. In connection with this biographical notice appears a lithographic portrait of the Hon. Mr. Bell.



GEORGE A. POTTS. The *Saranac Local*, which is owned and edited by Mr. Potts, in Saranac, Ionia County, is enjoying a better patronage than is usual in towns of the size of that in which it is published. It has been brought to a prosperous outlook by good management in its business relations and the exercise of intellectual force and tact in its columns. Its pages are well supplied with such news of the day as are of general interest, its local items are carefully selected, and its utterances on the issues that are before the people are calm, deliberate and logical.

The parents of our subject were John and Mary Potts, who emigrated from County Kent, England, where he had been born April 26, 1846, during his childhood. They settled in Lenawee County, this State, and proceeded in the attempt to gain a home, but before their hopes were realized they were drowned while crossing Devil's Lake on the ice, in January, 1858. This sad event left their son, and a daughter but three years old, orphans in quite

destitute circumstances. For a time the children made their home with relatives who were scarcely able to support their own families, but eventually both succeeded in getting homes where they were well fed and comfortably clothed.

The history of the boyhood and early youth of Mr. Potts is not a pleasant one to contemplate, and we pass it by, only remarking that the lessons he then learned enabled him better to fight his own way than if he had been reared in luxury. His education was mainly obtained in the district school and during the winter months, but for a couple of terms he was a student in Oak Grove Academy, at Medina. In September, 1863, when but seventeen years old he enlisted, going to the front as a member of Company M, First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. He served faithfully and efficiently until the war was over, and was discharged at Jackson, October 1, 1865.

Mr. Potts took up farm work after the war, working by the month in the summer and attending or teaching school during the winters until 1870, when he bought a farm in Medina Township, Lenawee County. In March of that year he was married to Miss Ellen A. Negus, of that township, who aided and sympathized with him during a few years and was then called hence, leaving him with one daughter, Mary M., who is still living. In May, 1876, he contracted a second matrimonial alliance, wedding Miss Celestia Corporon, of Grand Rapids, by whom he has one daughter, Edith M.

Mr. Potts occupied his farm until the fall of 1874 when, having obtained a situation with the *Hudson Post* he moved into the town. It was during his residence in Hudson that he suffered the loss of his first wife, and sometime later secured the companionship of another estimable lady. In 1877 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff for Lenawee County, and discharged the duties of that office without neglecting those connected with the newspaper. In 1881 he removed to a new farm in Hopkins Township, Allegan County. However much romance there may be in clearing up an undeveloped tract, it was not appreciated by Mr. Potts, and in the fall of the same year he accepted a situation as the traveling salesman for A. D. Plumb, of Grand Rapids. This work involved

long journeys and necessitated prolonged absences from home, and was therefore abandoned by Mr. Potts when, in July, 1883, he found himself able to purchase the *Saranac Local*. The paper had but a limited circulation, but the new proprietor thought he saw the promise of better times for the sheet, and the passing years have proved the correctness of his belief.



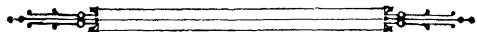
SAMUEL LOOMIS. Throughout Ionia County are to be seen the homes of men who have done much hard work here and are rewarded by gathering about them more and more of the comforts of life and the evidences of prosperity. One who is a factor in the financial growth of Ronald Township is Mr. Loomis, whose pleasant home is on section 29. He was born in New York, near the town of Auburn, July 15, 1824, and was but a boy when he came to this State with his parents, Ezra and Sally (Kennedy) Loomis. They settled in Macomb County, and there they passed the remnant of their days. They had seven children, but two only are now living—Daniel, the first-born, and Samuel, the fourth.

The first school privileges of Samuel Loomis were enjoyed in his native county, and he continued his studies in this State, spending the intervals of school life in aiding his father on the farm. He was eighteen years old when his father died and he then started out in the world by working on a farm at \$10 per month. He continued the work until his marriage, then located in Orleans Township, Ionia County, and afterward bought a farm there. In 1865 he sold the property and bought forty acres where he now lives. There was nothing on the tract but a rude log cabin, and Mr. Loomis cleared and improved it. As he prospered in his undertakings, he added to his landed estate, and he now has one hundred and twenty acres all under fence and nearly all under tillage. Mr. Loomis keeps good stock and has a flock of fifty-three sheep.

The wife of Mr. Loomis was known in her maidenhood as Miss Barbara Robinson. She was

born in Scotland and resided there until she was twenty years old, when she came to America with her parents. In 1861 she became the wife of our subject, and she has given him the closest sympathy in every worthy effort he has made, either to build up their own fortune, aid others to a nobler life, or become better informed regarding what is going on in the world.

Both husband and wife belong to the Christian Church and work earnestly for the advancement of the cause of Christianity. Mr. Loomis always deposits a Republican ticket on election day. He was at one time a member of the Grange and his wife is still a member of the same. Toward his neighbors and associates he manifests a cordial, kindly spirit, and in the prosecution of the work to which he has devoted himself he is painstaking and persevering. He is regarded with respect by all to whom he is known and his estimable wife shares in the esteem of their acquaintances.



AUGUSTUS W. MAYNARD, one of the oldest residents of Eureka Township, Montcalm County, Mich., living on section 14, was born in Washington County, N. Y., May 3, 1822. His father was Xurey and his grandfather, Elisha Maynard. The father, who was a member of the Congregational Church and a Whig in politics, married Polly Townsend. They both died in early life, leaving two young children, Augustus W. and Sallie. The mother died when our subject was but three years old and after a few years the father who had married a second time was also called away. The boy lived with his step-mother until he arrived at his majority. In the winter of 1844 he started West.

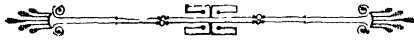
The first Western home of this young man was in Jackson, Mich. He worked there for two summers and in the winter of 1845 he walked from Marshall to Montcalm County, having come as far as that town on the Michigan Central Railroad, Marshall being then the terminus of that road. He bought two hundred acres of land here. He was one of the first settlers, and having no family then

to share and lighten his burdens he had rather a dismal and hard time of it for the first few years. His first shelter was made by standing up rough slabs around a big oak tree, thus forming a very durable wigwam, under which he cooked and slept. Soon after his coming to this place he made a journey on foot to Napoleon, Jackson and Battle Creek to obtain farm implements and there purchased a yoke of oxen, a wagon and other commodities, having to pick his way through the woods and ford the rivers and creeks to get back. His market was at Grand Rapids, thirty miles away, and thither he and his ox-team must wend their way when in need of provisions. He built himself a log house on his present farm near where the city of Greenville, with its four thousand inhabitants, now stands. Here he kept bachelor's hall for over a year. Two or three rude cabins and one sawmill formed the village. His fortune with which to buy his land and support himself was \$400.

Indians were plentiful in that region and they frequently came to the lone cabin of Mr. Maynard to beg. He was usually generous to them but on one occasion he refused what an insolent Indian asked for and shut the door in his face. The Indian picked up a stone and shaking it at him made dire threats of vengeance. Our young settler walked boldly out and taking the savage by the throat led him a short distance from the cabin and told him never to come there again. The cowed Indian obeyed him.

Our subject now has one hundred and thirty acres of fine arable and highly cultivated land. He has been a hard worker and has cleared and improved it nearly all himself. He built his main barn in 1848 and his present large frame residence in 1883. His marriage in 1847 to Fidelia A. Wilson was an event of importance in his life and was the beginning of a very happy married life. This lovely and amiable woman died in 1873. She was the mother of nine children, five of whom are now living, namely George, Joseph, Mary, Betsey, and Sarah. The Congregational Church was the religious home of this family. Mr. Maynard was a strong Abolitionist in the days before the war and is a member of the Republican party. He has served as Treasurer of Eureka Township, and is a

man that is universally liked and possesses unusual intelligence. He deserves great credit for the fortitude with which he endured the hardships of pioneer life and the aid he has given in the development of the county. Our subject and his family are now members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, located in Greenville.



SAMUEL STOWELL. It affords the publishers of this ALBUM pleasure to be able to present to its readers the principal facts in the life of the gentleman above-named, who is a prominent and influential citizen of Ionia County and is closely connected with the progress of Easton Township. He is one of those old soldiers whom all true patriots delight to honor, and his record while in the army of his country proved him to be possessed of intense loyalty and moral and physical courage. He is a descendant of the old Revolutionary stock and it is not strange that he made a good record, adding to the lustre of the name that had been borne by heroic ancestors during the long struggle for independence. As a citizen Mr. Stowell has been upright and enterprising, thus adding to the respect which was felt for him on account of his military record.

In Seneca County, N. Y., September 12, 1840, he of whom we write was born. His parents were Samuel and Anne (Goff) Stowell, the former of whom was the representative of an old Vermont family. Grandfather Stowell fought in the Revolution and our subject now has in his possession the gun carried by that patriot. It was originally a flint-lock rifle, was of the old Queen Anne pattern and carried an ounce ball. The stock was broken off and the barrel alone remains, carefully preserved as a relic and heirloom. The father of our subject died when he was but three years old and under his mother's care he grew to the age of ten years. He then went to live with a brother Ira, with whom he came to this State in 1856, their home being made in Woodland Township, Barry County, where the brother still resides.

Samuel Stowell received a common-school edu-

cation in New York and Michigan, and learned lessons of life that are not to be acquired in the school room. He enlisted August 26, 1861, in Company B, Eighth Michigan Infantry, and became an integral part of the Ninth Army Corps. His first general commander was Thomas W. Sherman, of Mexican Battery notoriety, under whose leadership the command sailed from Annapolis, Md., to Hilton Head, S. C., in November. Thence the boys returned to Virginia to serve under Burnside in the corps before mentioned. Mr. Stowell took part in the capture of Fts. Walker and Beauregard at Hilton Head and fought at Cosaw River and James Island. At the last-named point over half the regiment was lost in one charge. The next heavy engagement in which he took part was the battle of Ft. Pulaski, Ga., and following this was a reconnoissance on Wilmington Island near Savannah. After these engagements in the South Mr. Stowell participated in the disastrous battles which fell to the lot of General Pope's command, including the last Bull Run and Chantilly, in the latter of which Gens. Stevens and Kearney lost their lives. The regiment was re-organized and participated in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam under the leadership of Gen. McClellan. In May, 1863, Mr. Stowell was discharged for disability and returned to his former home to resume the arts of peace.

The marriage of Mr. Stowell and Miss Melissa Jordan was solemnized at the bride's home in Woodland Township, Barry County, September 24, 1865. Mrs. Stowell was born there and is a daughter of Orrin and Cynthia (Lee) Jordan, who are among the oldest settlers in that vicinity, having lived there over half a century. Her father is now eighty-five years old. Besides Mrs. Stowell the surviving members of the Jordan family are Mary, wife of Thomas Taylor, of Easton Township; Cynthia, who married Frank Roberts, of Barry County; Orrin, William, Willard and Dayton, who are living in Barry County. Mr. and Mrs. Stowell are the happy parents of four living children—William, Samuel B., Alanson and Anne—and mourn the loss of one child.

Mr. Stowell took possession of his present home in the fall of 1872. At that time there were twenty

acres of partially improved land on the farm and an old house. There are now one hundred and eighteen acres under thorough cultivation, with large numbers of apple, pear, plum and cherry trees and many stands of grapes. Mr. Stowell takes much interest in fruit culture and succeeds as those who love their work generally do. He is a self-made man, financially speaking, and since his marriage has been given valuable assistance by his wife, who is economical without being parsimonious, and manifests good judgment in the control of affairs that come under her supervision.

Mr. Stowell has been Clerk of Easton Township one term and filled a similar office in Woodland Township, Barry County, two terms. He was Deputy Warden at the Ionia House of Correction two years. In January, 1891, he was appointed State Land Examiner, his chief duty being to prevent trespass on State lands. He was appointed by Gen. George T. Shaffer, Commissioner of the Land Office and the appointment was approved by Gov. Winans. Mr. Stowell is a member of William H. Borden Post, G. A. R., at Ionia, and also belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Patrons of Industry. He is unusually public spirited and enterprising, is well-informed on political and social topics, and is an hospitable and courteous gentleman. Having read extensively and having a retentive memory, he proves an entertaining companion, and his fine character entitles him to the esteem of all who know him.



ORREN STEBBINS was one of those highly-respected men whose loss is felt throughout an entire community, causing a feeling of deep regret when the news of their decease reaches the people. He was for some years a resident of Sebewa Township, Ionia County, and by reason of his industrious habits, business honor and public spirit, had become one of the influential citizens of this section. He was born in the Empire State in 1824, and was seven years old when his parents, Roswell and Maria Stebbins, removed to Huron

County, Ohio. He gained a fair education in his youth and was ever a great reader, thus extending his knowledge into fields before untrodden and better fitting himself for man's duties.

Mr. Stebbins was first married to Sophia Taylor, daughter of George and Julia Taylor, and a native of Pennsylvania, although at the time of her marriage a resident of Huron County, Ohio. The union resulted in the birth of three children—Ellen, who died in childhood; Addie M., wife of Alexander Morgan; and Locey J., who died when two years old. The second marriage of Mr. Stebbins was solemnized August 30, 1868, at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. Melissa C. Worden, in Charlotte, Eaton County. The bride on this occasion was Mary Jane Probasco, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Shay) Probasco. She was born in Sherman, Huron County, Ohio, July 22, 1833, and was for a time engaged in teaching.

The parents of Mrs. Mary J. Stebbins were natives of New Jersey whence they removed to the Buckeye State when Huron County was very new. Mr. Probasco was a blacksmith and a farmer, working at the forge while keeping his farm running. He bought a goodly tract of land on which was an orchard that had been planted by the Indian occupants of the country. Thinly settled as the country was the schools were quite good and the family obtained practical educations. Mrs. Stebbins, who is next to the youngest in a band numbering eleven, not only became well informed in book knowledge, but skilled in domestic arts as well. A brother and sister became teachers, and a brother, Uzel H., was admitted to the bar at Columbus, but is latterly numbered among the successful farmers near Vernon, Tex. Another brother, George, was attending school at Republic, Ohio, when the Mexican War began, and entering the service, died at Matamoras, Mexico, and is buried there. Mr. Probasco was a musician in the War of 1812. He died in Ohio when forty-seven years old. His widow survived a number of years and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Stebbins, May 29, 1879.

Mr. Stebbins was an excellent business man and left his family well provided for, among his possessions being the improved farm on which his widow still resides. He was of cheerful disposition,

a lover of his home and cordial in his associations with neighbors and acquaintances. He belonged to the Masonic Lodge in Portland, being a Master Mason, and his funeral was conducted by his brethren, with the impressive and beautiful ceremony which contains so much that is comforting to the bereaved. The date of the removal of Mr. Stebbins from scenes of time and sense was September 10, 1885.



THOMAS DANIELS. A traveler in Ionia County will see many attractive farms where the indications of prosperity and home comfort are numerous, and will be led to believe that the owners are men of enterprise and good judgment. On section 29, Keene Township, is such a farm, consisting of one hundred and eighteen acres of land that even to one unacquainted with farm life will be seen to be well cultivated and intelligently ordered. This property belongs to Thomas Daniels, who is one of the prominent citizens of the vicinity, and has a wide acquaintance in the county. He was for some time engaged in mercantile pursuits in the town of Lowell, but in 1865 took possession of a tract of partially improved land, on which he has since lived, carrying on his occupation with zeal and marked success.

The parents of our subject were George and Ann (Twiddle) Daniels, of Yorkshire, England, where the son was born February 21, 1824. He is the oldest of the surviving members of a family that comprised eleven sons and daughters, the others now living being Ann, wife of Daniel Galatin; Henry and Robert. In 1831 the family crossed the Atlantic on the sailing-vessel "May Day," being five weeks and one day from Hull to New York. They then came direct to Wayne County, this State, which was their home seven years, after which they removed to Jackson County. Our subject received a common-school education in the district in which his home was, and has added to the knowledge there obtained by careful reading and acute observation. He carried on his work in another part of the State until 1855,

when he established himself in Lowell for a decade, and then became one of the farmers of Keene Township.

At the bride's home in Lenawee County, February 6, 1850, Mr. Daniels was married to Miss Elizabeth Lewin. This lady was born in Rochester, N. Y., and her parents, Thomas and Ellen Lewin, were natives of the Isle of Man. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel are the happy parents of three living children—Charles, Nellie and Frank, and mourn the loss of their first-born, Adelbert. Their daughter is now happily married, being the wife of J. Mark Brown. Charles L. took for his bride Jennie Joseph, of Boston Township. He is general manager for E. F. Daniels & Co., coal dealers of Chicago. Mrs. Daniels is an hospitable, kind-hearted woman, and her beautiful home gives evidence of her refined taste and housewifely skill. She greatly enjoys dispensing good cheer to those who enter her doors and heartily seconds her husband's invitations to their friends and acquaintance, who frequently visit them.

In his political beliefs Mr. Daniels is a firm Republican. He and his wife find their religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Daniels is identified with Lowell Lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., and is one of its charter members. He served several years as Master of the lodge. He has been Supervisor and for seven years was Township Clerk; he is now serving his third term as Justice of the Peace. His continuance in office proves his sturdy and stable characteristics. He is liberal, public-spirited, well-informed and courteous, and has a deservedly high standing among the citizens.



WILLIAM J. PERCIVAL, one of the five surviving sons of Jabez C. and Polly (Brooks) Percival, joined in celebrating a notable event and one somewhat rare in the Western country, the golden wedding of his parents. This interesting and delightful event took place December 1, 1890. Our subject was born in Portville, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., April 9, 1857. The

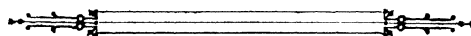
parents were both natives of the Empire State, the father being of English descent and the mother of German lineage. The father is a carpenter by trade and has carried on this work all his life and still busies himself with it at Palo, Ionia County. His first emigration from his native State was in 1857, when he removed to Newtown, Forrest County, Pa., and resided there about eleven years; here he operated a sawmill. In 1868 he made his final removal to Palo.

Mr. Percival's political convictions are with the Republican party and he has always supported with his vote the principles and candidates of that party. His first ballot was cast in 1840 for William Henry Harrison and he had the pleasure of voting in 1888 for the grandson of that illustrious man. He has held a number of township offices. Both he and his worthy wife are consistent and honored members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they have brought up their sons to be enterprising and prosperous business men. The five sons are: James C., of Stanton, Mich., cashier of the Montcalm County Savings Bank; Frederick C., life insurance agent in New York City; George A., a banker at Ogden, Utah; Edward B., a book-keeper at Grand Valley, and William J.

The subject of this sketch was an emigrant at a very early age, removing to Pennsylvania with his parents when only one month old. Here he received his first schooling and when eleven years old came with his parents to Palo; he continued in school and in the attendance upon home duties until he was fifteen years of age. He then began clerking in a store and for about eighteen months attended faithfully to the duties of that vocation. He decided to go West, and at Central City, Neb., became the assistant Postmaster. He remained there about eighteen months and returned home believing that he could do better in business where he was best known.

At the old home this young man now went into business, which was a store and bank combined. In 1883 he was engaged to act as book-keeper in the First National Bank at Stanton. This place he filled so acceptably that in May, 1888, his services were in requisition to fill the place of cashier in the Lake Odessa Savings Bank. Mr. Percival has

proved himself a man of good business ability and of sterling integrity. His fine qualities have led his fellow-citizens to place him in positions of trust. During 1890 he was President of the village of Lake Odessa and is now a member of the Board of Trustees. His political preferences and vote are with the Republican party. His marriage with Corintha Pattison, May 13, 1885, has been a happy one, and has been blessed with two children. He and his wife are both active and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are active in all good works, especially in the Sunday-school, of which Mr. Percival is the efficient Superintendent.



NEWTON A. PORTER, Sheriff of Montcalm County, was born in Stockbridge, Madison County, N. Y., September 6, 1845. His parents, Samuel and Jerusha (Brewer) Porter, were also born in the Empire State. The mother died in New York State, the father came to Michigan a number of years ago and makes his home with his children. The son had but fair educational advantages, but managed by close study and careful application whenever opportunity offered, to get a good education. In 1866 he began his personal career as a farmer following the line of life in which his father had walked and making of it a success.

That year Mr. Porter located in Maple Valley Township, Montcalm County, on section 20, and during his long residence there was honored by the various offices that were in the gift of the people of the township. In 1888 he was elected Sheriff and proved so efficient that in 1890 he was re-nominated by acclamation in the Republican county convention. Notwithstanding the fact that all the opposition of three combined tickets were centered on him he was again elected. In the course of his official career he has had charge of many noted criminals and it has come to be understood that he is one of the safest officers in the State. The attorney's prisoners as well as the people generally, understand that with Sheriff Porter duty is above

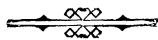


Truly Yours
E. R. Williams

all else, and whatever he is called upon to do will be carried out if it is within the bounds of possibility.

November 20, 1865, Mr. Porter was married to Miss Nancy Green, the ceremony taking place in Stockbridge, N. Y. The marriage was blest by the birth of a son, Francis N., and a daughter, Ida H. The son is married and has one child and his home is in Montcalm County. The daughter is unmarried and is still living under her father's roof. The wife and mother departed this life June 1, 1886, and in 1888 Mr. Porter made a second marriage, wedding Miss Inez Wiseman.

As has been indicated in mention of his nomination to office, Mr. Porter is a Republican and we may add that he is a stalwart indeed. He is of a social open-hearted nature, kind in the various relations of life, and enterprising and straightforward in business. He belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of the Macca-bees.



HON. EDWIN R. WILLIAMS. An honorable position among the men to whose efforts Ionia County is indebted for its present high state of material development is held by Mr. Williams, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page. One of the large landowners of the county, he may well be taken as the representative of the best agricultural element in Orange Township. The present condition of his farm, to which he moved in 1880, attests to his ability as a financier and his judgment regarding farm life. As a citizen he is worthy of the trust and confidence that he has inspired by his honorable career as a farmer and in every other respect. Not only is he a man of note in his own community, but he ranks among the most influential residents of the county. His success as a farmer has been unusual, but he has not limited himself to one line of effort. He has engaged in large transactions in various directions, and is well known as a business man of ability and integrity, and as a capable legislator who has accomplished much for the interests of his county.

John A. Williams, father of our subject, was born in 1779 in West Bloomfield Township, Ontario County, N. Y. He was a son of Job Williams, of Welsh descent, and a soldier in the War of 1812. A brother of Job Williams was killed at the battle of Lundy's Lane. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Patience Jenks, and was born in Oneida County, N. Y. The Jenks family were early pioneers of that county, having come there from Vermont. They afterwards removed to Oakland County, Mich., in the Territorial days. They were of substantial New England stock, and Mr. Jenks was a very prominent Mason in Oakland County at the time of the Morgan troubles.

John A. Williams came to Michigan about 1826 and after his marriage removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, settling on an unbroken farm. Four years later he sold and returned to this State, making his home upon another new farm in West Bloomfield, Oakland County. In 1856 he sold this farm, then well improved and came to North Plains Township, Ionia County. He lost his wife in 1867, and he departed this life in 1879. Of their four children two survive them: John O., who lives in North Plains Township, and our subject. The mother of our subject was a member of the Christian Church and the father was a Spiritualist. His political preferences were with the Democratic party.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch, first saw the light in Oakland County, September 20, 1836. After taking what schooling could be procured in the district he went to Ypsilanti and graduated at the State Normal School. At twenty years of age he began life for himself, having taught school for nearly four years already. For a time he followed the profession of a teacher, but his desire to own a good farm led him to take land in North Plains Township, on section 16. Here he took possession of two hundred and seventy acres of well-timbered land. He cleared and fenced this and altogether he has cleared four hundred acres. He put good buildings upon his farm and had a \$6,000 house which he lost by fire. He then bought and improved a place on section 5, the same township, where William Bamborough now lives.

Mr. Williams spent one year in California, and

during the following winter made a tour of the South, spending some time in Florida. The next fall he went again to California where he remained until October, 1889. He was a contractor and builder in Los Angeles and erected for himself a splendid home there. He now owns two hundred and forty acres, all under cultivation. The spirit of the flames has seemed to follow him, as he has lost by fire three beautiful homes; one was in Ionia, and on October 13, 1889, his \$3,600 residence on the farm was burned, which he has rebuilt at a cost of \$2,500. He was engaged in shipping cattle to the Eastern States and was for two years a general agent for the sale of agricultural implements in Wisconsin and Western Michigan.

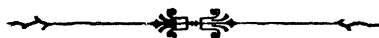
Mr. Williams' marriage in 1860 united him with Jennie Curtis, a daughter of William Curtis, formerly of Niagara County, N. Y., and now a prominent farmer in Winnebago County, Wis. Mrs. Williams was born in 1835 and was a professional school teacher, very successful in her calling. She died in May, 1870, leaving four children: Ella, wife of William Bamborough, living in North Plains and the mother of three children; Minnie, wife of George Dysinger of Ionia, and the mother of three children; Flora, Mrs. Arthur J. White, of Orange Township, has two children; Fred S., living in Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County, Cal. The mother of these children was an earnest and conscientious member of the Baptist Church.

Our subject's second marriage was with Laura L. Higbee, a daughter of Benjamin and Laura (Goodwin) Higbee, pioneer farmers of Orleans Township, of which this daughter was a native. She was born in 1849 and having graduated at the Ionia High School became a successful teacher. She is the mother of four children: Grace A., Frank E., Earl R., and Ray C.; the two eldest are attending school at Ionia.

Mr. Williams has been connected with the Christian Church, but is now an advocate of liberal church doctrine. His wife is an efficient member of the Baptist Church. Our subject is an active member of the Blue Lodge, Masonic order; of the Grange, where he has been Master in both subordinate and county; of the Patrons of Industry, in which he has been President. He was Director in

the School Board for twenty-eight years and has been Clerk of his township ever since he lived here. He is wide-awake on all political questions, having been successively a Democrat, a Greenbacker and an Independent. He was a Representative from the Western district of Ionia County to the State Legislature in 1885-86, and has frequently been delegate to county and State conventions. He was a member of the Greenback State Central Committee. He has always been a temperate man having never swallowed ardent liquor in his life.

Elsewhere in this volume appears a lithographic portrait of Mr. Williams.



JONATHAN ELLISON. The Grand River Valley has been the scene of as much hard work as any section of the United States, and its pioneers have endured as many privations and passed through as many unpleasant experiences as those of any part of the country, unless it be that of the arid regions among the Rocky Mountains. Among those to whom Ionia County is indebted for its present development and civilization is Mr. Ellison, whose broad acres and comfortable home attest to his perseverance, industrious habits and indomitable energy. His graphic description of pioneer times stirs the soul of the listener and impresses, as no written account can, the peculiar conditions of affairs when this section of country was an almost unbroken wilderness. "Uncle Jonathan" is now surrounded by many comforts and enjoying the results of his labors in his home on section 30, Easton Township.

Mr. Ellison was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., February 27, 1818, his parents being Eliab and Prudence (Adams) Ellison, both of whom were born in Massachusetts. His grandfather, Nehemiah Adams, was a first cousin of the celebrated John Adams, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and later one of the most noted statesmen of the young nation. The father of our subject died when the lad was fifteen years of age and the following spring the settlement

of the estate devolved upon the youth. The business ability he displayed in arranging the complicated affairs satisfactorily was remarkable for one so young. His education had been but limited, compared with that which is, or can be, gained at this time, but such as it was, it was practical and thorough.

Early thrown upon his own resources young Ellison turned his attention to farming and his life from his youth up has been that of a tiller of the soil. He came to this State in the spring of 1846, accompanied by a faithful helpmate who nobly shared in his fortunes, cheerfully enduring the discomforts of their early life here, and encouraging him by her sympathy and counsel as well as aiding him by her prudent management. They settled in the woods and began clearing and developing a tract of land which is now one of the most productive in the neighborhood. They have remained on the original location and now have about two hundred acres, upon which is a complete line of substantial buildings, good stock and modern machinery.

Mrs. Ellison was known in her maidenhood as Julia A. Snyder. She was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., August 5, 1828, and entered into the marriage relation in 1845. Her parents were William and Maria Snyder, natives of the Empire State.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellison have had six sons and six daughters, named respectively: William V., Delia, John W., Warren, Helen, Addie B., James A., Napoleon B., Samuel, Annie, Nina and Esther. The deceased are Delia, John and Helen. The living daughters are married, Addie being the wife of Frederick C. Lee, Annie of Harvey Brown, Nina of Fred Hunter, and Esther of George W. Potter.

In the progress of education Mr. Ellison has always been deeply interested and the country does not contain a stancher friend of schoolhouses than he. He has aided in building two, and has taken part in other work which promised to advance the true welfare of the people. In 1839 he cast a vote with the Democrats and gave his allegiance to the same party until 1860, when the issues that led to the Civil War made him a Republican. Mr. Ellison keeps himself well informed of passing

events and, had he been so fortunate as to have secured a liberal education, there is no question but that he would have been a prominent political factor, as even now he is able to hold his own against any ordinary opponent. He has the ambition and natural combativeness to overcome obstacles, as is evidenced by the place he has obtained in financial circles. Honest and upright, he is respected and looked up to, and having long been a resident of this vicinity he is known for miles around.



BALLEN J. McINTOSH. A pleasant farm on section 20, Orleans Township, is the home of Mr. McIntosh, who has lived in Ionia County since 1869. His estate consists of eighty broad acres, all under cultivation and so carefully and intelligently managed as to produce large crops of excellent quality. Personal efforts of Mr. McIntosh removed the forest growth from twenty acres of this land and under his oversight the substantial dwelling was built. Throughout the estate a careful observer will see indications of the character of the owner, and without enjoying his personal acquaintance it would be easy to determine the energy and capability of his nature.

The originator of this branch of the McIntosh family in America was James, grandfather of our subject, who died in Wayne County, this State. In the family brought with him from Scotland was a son who bore his own name. The elder James McIntosh was a stonemason and the younger became a blacksmith. The latter invested some money in farm lands and at his death owned eighty acres in Wayne County. There he married Laura Rawson and reared three children, named respectively, Halen J., Helen L. and James C.

In the county above mentioned the subject of this notice was born September 28, 1838. He lost his mother when quite young and from that time until he was sixteen years old he lived with his grandfather. He then went to Sidney Township, Montcalm County, and thence to Fair Plains, where he remained two years. His next change of residence was to Ionia County in which he has since

remained. In Montcalm County he cut the trees on forty-six acres of his land, and cleared away logs and brush, placing it in condition for improvement. Our subject sold the first load of wheat that was ever sold in the township before it was organized.

In Greenville, this State, Mr. McIntosh was married to Miss Mary L. Wise, and their wedded life has been a happy and prosperous one. She is a daughter of Jacob and Rebecca (Nickerson) Wise, natives of New Jersey, who came to this State in quite an early day. Her father is still living in Montcalm County, where they settled upon coming hither and her mother is deceased. The children born to them were Sarah, William, Margaret, Jacob, Mary J., Beech and Esther. Mr. Wise is a farmer. His second wife bore the maiden name of Lydia Butler and their marriage was solemnized in Greenville. Our subject's union has been blest by the birth of two children—Ada M. and Floyd, both of whom are at home.

Mr. McIntosh enlisted August 17, 1864, and served until June 9, 1865, in Company A, First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. He was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. In politics he is and always has been a Democrat. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodge at Greenville.



SHERMAN M. TOWNSEND lives on a farm on section 30, Ionia Township, Ionia County. He is the son of Abiel Townsend, a native of Massachusetts, also a farmer. His grandfather Townsend was a soldier in the War of 1812, his son Nathan, joining him in the same patriotic service. The mother of our subject was Delia (Walkley) Townsend, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of Timothy Walkley, one of the old farmer residents of that State. In 1834 he brought his family into Michigan and became one of the pioneers of Genesee County, making his permanent home there where he died in 1840. Abiel Townsend, came to Michigan and settled in Cass County, in 1836, on a raw farm.

After living there a few years he removed to Genesee County, where he met with Miss Walkley, and having married made his residence there until 1856, when he removed to Ionia County, Ionia Township, on section 30, where he made his home until his death in 1887, his wife having died ten years before in 1877. They were the parents of five children, three of whom are now living.

Sherman M. Townsend was the second child of his parents and was born February 19, 1846, in Genesee County, Mich., and received at their hands a good district school education. He remained with his parents until after reaching his majority, and has always pursued the business of a farmer. When he took his farm, it was fenced and somewhat improved and some of the buildings were also upon it. He has now resided upon and worked his farm since 1877. He has one hundred and ninety-six acres, one hundred and sixty of which are under cultivation. In 1877 he married Miss Ellen McNeil, a daughter of David and Jane (Davidson) McNeil, who were old and respected settlers of Genesee County, Mich. David McNeil came to this State in 1839, and died in 1886, his wife having preceded him two years before to the other world. Mrs. Townsend's grandfather, Norman Davidson was an early settler of Michigan having arrived here in 1832. He was Judge of the Probate Court. David McNeil was a member of the Congregational Church. He also took an interest in politics and belonged to the Democratic party. He and his wife were the parents of five children, three of whom are now living. Mrs. Townsend was born April 12, 1846, in Genesee County. They gave her the best advantages at hand for an education, sending her to school where she also studied music.

Mr. and Mrs. Townsend are the parents of three children, two of whom are now living: Neil S., was born August 27, 1880; and J. Fred, October 3, 1881. This worthy couple have the just respect of all their neighbors and are useful in every capacity, although more than usually modest and retiring in their lives. They are members of the Presbyterian Church at Ionia, of which church Mr. Townsend has been a member for fourteen years. They take an active part in Sunday-school work. Mr. Townsend is a member of the Masonic fraternity,

Blue Lodge, and as a Republican takes an active interest in politics. He carries on mixed farming and gives his whole attention to his work. The sister Maria and brother John A. of our subject, both live in South Dakota. Mrs. Townsend's family are among the most honored in Southern Michigan. Her grandfather Davidson was a member of the first constitutional convention of Michigan, and two of his sons have been in their day, members of the State Legislature. Grandfather Davidson was the first settler in Davidsonville and built the saw and grist mills at that place.



AUSTIN SPRAGUE. The death of the late Mr. Sprague removed from Ionia County one of her reliable, steady-going citizens, a man of good character and energetic nature, and an expert tiller of the soil. Most of his years were passed within the limits of the county, and many of them on the farm in Orleans Township on which he was born September 14, 1843, and now owned by his widow. His early years were spent in the usual alternation of study, recreation and work, and he grew vigorous in body and mind and anxious to do a man's work in the world.

In August, 1862, when in his eighteenth year young Sprague decided to take up arms in the Union cause, convinced of its righteousness, and filled with a loyal fervor that would give him no rest at home. He was enrolled in Company A, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and did his duty in the ranks until June 8, 1865, when, peace having been declared, he was discharged. He made one of the gallant sixty thousand that marched with Sherman to the Sea, and during his army life had the fortune to be present in many famous battles, as well as skirmishes innumerable, and to suffer hardships and endure fatigue hard to realize from hearsay. Among the heavy engagements in which he fought are, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, and Mission Ridge.

After the war Mr. Sprague returned to this State and engaged in the livery business in Stanton,

Montcalm County, making that town his home until 1875. He then came to Orleans Township, and bought the Webster farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he cultivated during the remainder of his days. His demise occurred April 23, 1889, and by his untimely removal from the scenes of earth a widow and three children were left to mourn, and a large circle of friends as well. He was a member of the Republican party from the time he was first entitled to the right of suffrage. After the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic he was identified therewith.

The father of our subject was Loren Sprague, who accompanied his parents to Ionia County when a young man, they spending their days in Keene Township until the death of the husband. The widow passed away in the city of Ionia in 1887 at the venerable age of ninety-seven years. Loren Sprague was twenty-seven years old when he removed from Keene to Ronald Township and there he made his home until his decease, in July, 1888. He followed the trade of a carpenter. He was married in Orleans Township in 1843 to Lucretia Webster, daughter of Guy and Lucretia (Mason) Webster. The union was blest by the birth of three children—Austin, Eusebia and Lucretia.

The maternal grandparents of Mr. Sprague were natives of Connecticut and Grandfather Webster is numbered among the pioneers of Ionia County. He bought one hundred and sixty acres which was a part of the domain of Uncle Sam, and brought it under development. He died there, but Grandmother Webster breathed her last in Ronald Township in 1875. The land bought from the Government by Mr. Webster is now partly owned by the widow of our subject, her estate including one hundred acres.

The marriage of Austin Sprague and Miss Ettie Meach took place at Stanton, September 6, 1871. The bride was born in New York in 1848 and accompanied her parents to this State in 1854. They located in Eaton County, but in 1861 removed to Stanton, Montcalm County, being one of the first families there. Mr. Meach was a lumber dealer and millman for a number of years and also engaged in the sale of merchandise while at Stanton. He owned eighty acres of land in Berlin Township,

which he cultivated and upon which he died August 21, 1886. He was a Master Mason and a member of the Ionia Lodge. The wife of Luman Meach was, like himself, a native of New York. She bore the maiden name of Fidelia Betts. She is still living, her age being sixty-five years. She carefully reared her children, who are five in number, bearing the names of Martha, Lavinia, Ettie, William and Walter. Ettie, now Mrs. Sprague, was well qualified to discharge the duties which lay in her way as wife and mother. She has been devoted to the interest of her family and cordial in her associations with her neighbors. She has three children—Walter, Norah and Clellie, who are still with her, and in their society she finds her chief joy since the death of her husband.



ALVA McCORMICK, a pioneer of Ionia County, and a general farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 10, Campbell Township. He was born in Niagara County, N. Y., January 16, 1837, and is a son of Alva and Ann (Brumly) McCormick, both natives of Seneca County, that State. The father was of Irish and German descent, and the grandfather was born on the ocean while his parents were crossing from the North of Ireland to America. The mother of our subject is of Mohawk-Dutch descent. His father was a farmer by occupation, but while he resided in New York he worked at various occupations and also ran a butcher shop in Orangeport, Niagara County.

In 1853 our subject's father came to Ionia County, Mich., and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Campbell Township, where the former now resides. In moving his family he brought them by rail to Battle Creek, and then hired teams to transport them to the new home, where a small log house received the family. He worked hard, clearing and improving the land, but did not live long enough to see it in perfect condition. Both he and his wife left their young family without parental care at an early age. He

died in November, 1864, his wife having preceded him in 1860. Of their thirteen children, Alva, our subject, is the seventh son. Three only of this large household are living: Jackson, a boatman who resides at Chicago; Alva; and Sarah, Mrs. David English. Both Mr. and Mrs. McCormick were well known among the pioneers and respected by all. Mr. McCormick was a member of the Universalist Church. He belonged to the Republican party, and was at one time Postmaster by appointment from President Lincoln.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch resided with his parents until he was seventeen years of age, receiving his early education in the district schools. As soon as he grew old enough to drive a team he drove on the Erie Canal between Buffalo and Albany during two summers, receiving the large salary of \$15 per month. He came with his parents to Michigan and assisted his father in clearing the land. He helped to build the road from Stanton, Montcalm County, three miles south. At his father's death he took charge of the homestead, which had been deeded to him a short time before, upon the provision that he should if necessary pay the other heirs a certain amount, which provision he scrupulously carried out.

Our subject began his lifework on the land where he now resides. He was a hard worker and perseveringly continued the work of clearing and improving the land. In 1866 he moved out of the old log house into a large new frame building, his present residence, which cost him over \$2,000. For years he served as Postmaster until 1870. By hard work and enterprise he has succeeded in placing under a good state of cultivation one hundred and seventy acres of his two hundred and twenty. The rest of the land is in excellent timber, and altogether is one of the most valuable farms in Campbell Township. He has a good sugar bush on the place and makes between two and three hundred gallons of syrup.

Half of the village of Clarksville stands on the land which Mr. McCormick platted and laid out in town lots. The marriage of Alva McCormick with Caroline Derby was celebrated November 15, 1863. Five children were born to them, three of whom are now living: Anna, Mrs. George Shaw, resides

in Clarksville; Chauncey is station agent for the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad, at Woodbury, in Barry County; Charlie resides at home; Bertie died at the age of fifteen years, of diphtheria; and a daughter, who died unnamed, aged three weeks.

Mrs. McCormick was born in Spofford Township, Onondaga County, N. Y. She is a daughter of Truman and Diana (Babcock) Derby. Mr. Derby was a Connecticut farmer, and Mrs. Derby was a New Yorker, of English descent. They removed to Ionia County, Mich., in 1854, and resided in a log house on section 9, Campbell Township, until his death which occurred October 5, 1864. His wife died at Viola, Minn., February 16, 1882. Of their eleven children six are now living: Lucy, Rebecca, Roswell, Truman, Edward H. and Caroline, all of whom have set up homes of their own in Minnesota and Michigan.

Industry and good business management and a reputation for integrity have brought to Mr. McCormick not only success and affluence but also the esteem of his neighbors. He is considered one of the leading men in the county. Politically he is in sympathy with the Democratic party.



ABRAMHAM MILLER was born in Summit County, Ohio, March 3, 1829, the son of Henry and Peggy Miller. His life before his majority was spent at home. While he was quite young his father removed to Medina County, Ohio, where he settled upon a farm and brought up his family. He was unable to give his children good opportunities for education, and Abraham began work on the farm very early in life. He was twice married; the first time to Rachael Greenhoe, of Medina County. This marriage took place May 7, 1850. Six children were born to this couple: Mary, born December 13, 1851; Sarah Ann, November 3, 1853; William, July 26, 1855; George, July 14, 1857; Lavina, July 23, 1859, and Harvey J., November 26, 1861. Lavina and Mary have been called from earth. The second marriage of Mr. Miller occurred March 2, 1871; he was then

joined to Frances Small, who was born in Maryland, November 7, 1834, and who came to Ohio when a little girl of eight years. Their two children were named Ella and Zella, the latter of whom is deceased, having died when only two years old.

Mr. Miller served one year in the Union army as guard on Johnson Island, Ohio. He came to Montcalm County, Mich., in the fall of 1865 and settled on the place where he now makes his home. He bought eighty acres to which he added twenty more, all of which he cleared from the forest and improved. He has now one hundred and thirty acres of choice land. In 1879 he moved into Sheridan and availed himself of the assistance of one of his sons in running the farm. For twelve years he continued to live in town but in April, 1890, returned to the farm. He has two fine orchards, one on either side of the road. In the hard times of his pioneer life he would work in the woods all day and in the evenings shave shingles, by the sale of which he would obtain the necessities of life. He has been Pathmaster.

The parents of Mrs. Miller, James and Sarah (Gerrish) Small, were both natives of the State of Maine. This daughter was one of five sisters; two of them have died. The surviving ones are Mary, Lydia and the wife of our subject. Mr. Miller's two half-brothers, Marshall and Albert, both live in Minnesota. Mr. Miller has some fine pines trees standing in front of his house which were set out by his son George, and the maple trees in his grove from which he is making sugar, were set out by his own hands. He is a Prohibitionist in politics and a man of undoubted integrity and an excellent reputation in every way.



JOHAN KELLER, one of the foremost citizens of Ionia County, is established on a well-regulated farm in Keene Township. He is successfully operating the eighty acres that comprise the estate, and in his comfortable home, surrounded by an interesting family and blessed by the society of many friends, he is pursuing the even tenor of his way with the industry that has

characterized him since he became a man. Upon his farm may be seen an ample and substantial barn and the granaries and sheds that are necessary for the convenient carrying on of his work. These are a monument to the good management of Mr. Keller, who has brought the place to its present condition and is reaping a due reward for his labors.

In Wayne County, N. Y. April 21, 1817, Mr. Keller was born. His parents were Henry and Elizabeth (Flint) Keller, natives of the Empire State, and his paternal ancestors were of German stock. He was reared chiefly in Genesee County and there attained to years of manhood. His education was obtained in common schools, and without having liberal advantages he is well informed on topics of general interest. He left his native State in the spring of 1851 to establish a home in Michigan and selected Wayne County as his place of abode. He remained there but a short time, however, then went to Ingham, and thence came to Ionia County in 1865. At that time he settled where he is still living and at once began to improve and thoroughly cultivate the soil.

Mr. Keller was married, in New York, in 1840, to Miss Mary A. Vanalst, who died leaving one daughter, Ann J., now the widow of Artemus Newman. In 1848 Mr. Keller was married to Miss Lauretta Wilson, daughter of William and Elmira (Austin) Wilson. She was born in New York February 4, 1829, and her parents were natives of New Hampshire and New York respectively. This union has been blessed by the birth of nine children named, Persis A.; William, who married Mary Trowbridge; Almira J., Alice, Eva A., Ellen; George B., married Mary Condon; Eddie, who married Bella Hawn, and Minnie. Persis married James Brown and is now a widow; Alice is the widow of R. K. Finch; Eva married A. Rising; Ellen is the wife of Thomas Renwick; Almira is deceased.

No residents in Keene Township are more genuinely interested in the general good than Mr. and Mrs. Keller, and few can claim to be better informed regarding the subjects that agitate the public mind. Mr. Keller enjoys the full confidence of the business community, and his word is considered as good

as a bond. He casts his vote with the Democratic party. His many friends will be pleased to see this sketch of his life, brief though it is, and necessarily presenting but an outline of an honorable career.



CORYDON RICE, who has been a citizen of Michigan since 1848, and of Montcalm County since 1884, was born in the city of Henderson, Oswego County, N. Y., on the 1st of November, 1838. His father and mother, John and Betsey (Beach) Rice, removed from the old home in Henderson with their family, when Corydon was quite young, to Onondaga County, where his father was engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he carried on quite successfully. This journey was one marked by a sad affliction to the family, as the mother died before they reached their new home, leaving the young children without her care.

When Corydon Rice had arrived at the age of ten years, his father was taken with the Western fever and decided to try his fortune in the new country. In the year 1848 he removed from Onondaga County, N. Y., to Ionia County, this State. Here the family lived in comfort and in a fairly prosperous condition, until the father's death, which occurred on the 28th of March, 1862. Mr. Rice relates that when his father removed to the new country he found nothing but an uninhabited wilderness of timber land, and that money was so scarce that it could not be obtained except in exchange for wheat, which then sold for fifty cents per bushel.

After the death of his father, young Rice took charge of the homestead, and operated it until he moved to Montcalm County, which was March 4, 1884. On March 20, 1864, the subject of this review celebrated his marriage with Mary T. Howorth. This union was cheered by the advent of one child, a daughter, who was born November 15, 1865, and who was named Letitia. She has grown to a beautiful young womanhood, and has united herself to Harvey Mulholland, a prosperous farmer in Montcalm County.

The beautiful farm of eighty acres is of excel-

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lent land and thoroughly worked. The house built upon it forms the shelter for a household of intelligence and good cheer. Mr. and Mrs. Rice are both consistent members of the Baptist Church, which they joined some twenty years ago. Their daughter was for four years a teacher in the county. In politics Mr. Rice holds earnestly to the Greenback policy, and has been for one year Supervisor of Douglas Township.



NATHAN B. HAYES, residing on section 36, is not only one of the most prosperous farmers and stock-raisers in North Plains Township, Ionia County, but is a business man of wide interests and large transactions. He was born in Bristol Township, Ontario County, N. Y., December 13, 1835. His father, Hector Hayes, was born in New York in July, 1804, and was by trade a carriage-maker, and also followed farming. In his trade he followed the lead of his father, Pliny a native of Connecticut, who was also in the same line of manufacture. The wife of Hector Hayes bore the maiden name of Lucinda Warren and was born in Connecticut in September, 1805, but was reared to womanhood in the State of New York. Here she met and married Mr. Hayes and they located in Bristol.

In 1836 this young couple came to Michigan, taking a boat to Detroit and going from there by ox-team to Ionia County, locating on section 31, North Plains Township. They were the second family of whites in the township and upon their arrival found Indians and wild beasts numerous and neighborly. Their farm was entirely unimproved and their nearest mill was at Marshall, Calhoun County, where they had to haul all their grain to be ground. They are still living and reside in North Plains Township. They became the parents of six children: George J., Joseph, (deceased), Nathan B., Mary A., Byron W. and Emma (deceased).

Mr. Hayes was an infant of nine months when he was brought by his parents to Michigan. The education which he commenced in a log school-

house was completed at Olivet College, Mich. After his graduation he returned home and worked on a farm with his father in the summer and taught school in the winter for five years. The first land he ever purchased was forty acres on section 32. Here he built a little shanty and hired a family to board him while he was clearing up the place. He had a little barn on the place where he used to sleep until it became too cold. He added to his original purchase by buying forty additional acres, then twenty and then eighty and so on. He could talk with the Indians and made friends with many of them.

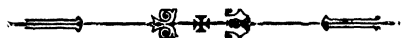
In September, 1864, Mr. Hayes became the husband of Mary A., daughter of Jay and Anstrus (Case) Olmsted, who had come to Michigan from Onondaga County, N. Y. Mrs. Hayes was born September 9, 1846, in Ionia County on section 30, North Plains Township, and here she was reared to womanhood. She is a sister of Lewis Ney Olmsted whose biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this book.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Hayes located on section 32, North Plains Township, but after remaining there a few years he moved to the place where he now resides and which he has steadily improved ever since. His farm is remarkably well fitted up with barns and outbuildings and if all the buildings upon the place were in a row it would be ninety rods long. He carries \$50,000 insurance on his farm alone. In North Plains and Lyons Township, he owns twenty-one hundred acres of land, and does not really know how much he owns in Montcalm County, but altogether he pays between \$1,000 and \$2,000 worth of taxes per year.

The stock on the home farm is all of fine grades. There are one hundred and twenty-five head of horses; four are imported stallions, one Percheron, one French coach stallion, imported, one standard bred Hambletonian, "Theo. Kean;" and seventy head of cattle. Mr. Hayes handles from five hundred to five thousand sheep annually and he ships large numbers. A sawmill at Bushnell, Montcalm County, and one at Muir, Ionia County, are among the profitable possessions of this prosperous man. He is the head of the firm of Hayes &

Spaulding who deal in agricultural implements at Ionia City and is also in the same business in Muir. He has telephones connecting his home with all his various lines of business, so that he can sit at home and converse with those in charge of all his business operations. He is one of the Directors in the Ionia County Savings Bank.

Mr. Hayes voted in his early manhood for Fremont, and in 1877 he was sent to the Legislature on the Republican ticket. He now votes the Democratic ticket. He was President of the First National Bank at Muir in 1867 and has been President of the Ionia, Eaton and Barry County Farmers Insurance Company since its organization. This company has a capital stock of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000. Since he was twenty-one years old he has held the position of Moderator of the School Board continuously. His four sons are enterprising young men and those who are out of school are engaging in business with their father. George B. has charge of the office at Muir; Hector J. manages the mill at Bushnell, Mich; Jerry C. attends school at Ionia and Austin C. is at home. Their only daughter is an adopted one whom they call Nettie B., and whom they took to their home when she was only four years old. A lithographic portrait of Mr. Hayes is presented in connection with this biographical sketch.



CHARLES C. WRIGHT. This gentleman is classed among the agriculturists of Ionia County, where he has lived since he was a babe nine months old. His present home is on section 4, Otisco Township, and his property here consists of one hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which the usual improvements have been made which fit it for the dwelling place of an intelligent family. Mr. Wright was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 19, 1842, and until he was of age assisted his father in such duties as were fitted for his increasing years and strength. Upon attaining his majority he took the control of his father's farm, and a few years later the original homestead was deeded to him. To this he

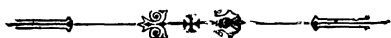
has added forty acres. Mr. Wright pays considerable attention to breeding Cleveland-Bay horses.

Mr. Wright is a grandson of Hezekiah Wright, who was born in the Green Mountain State and returned thither to spend his last years. Grandmother Wright died in this State about 1875, at the age of eighty-seven years. The father of our subject is Abner Wright, now living in Orleans Township. He was born in New York and came to this State in 1843, settling on the farm now occupied by his son Charles. He was a cooper by trade, but after coming hither followed farming. He retired from active life a few years since. He had no cash capital when he came to this State, but he possessed the faculty for making money and in the course of years accumulated considerable property. He has given each of his sons one hundred acres of land and his daughter money equivalent to that amount. His marriage took place in 1840 in his native State, which was also the place of birth of his bride. This lady bore the maiden name of Ruth Anna Tallman and her father was James Tallman, a native of New York. The subject of this biographical notice is the eldest of the children of Abner Wright and his wife, and the other members of the parental family are John A., Elizabeth E., George A., Preston G. and Ruth Anna.

In Otisco Township in 1863 Charles C. Wright and Loretta Wicks, daughter of Hiram Wicks, were made husband and wife. To them were born three children, named respectively: Eva N., Cora E. and Claude C. Having been bereft of his first companion, Mr. Wright contracted a second matrimonial alliance in 1878, wedding Rosa M. Wright, daughter of Benjamin Wright, formerly of New York. In an early day Benjamin Wright came to Kent County, this State, where he died in 1885. His widow is still living and is now three-score years old. The children born of the second union of Mr. Charles Wright are Harley C., John A. and Ona A., all of whom are at home.

For a number of years Mr. Wright was a member of the Republican party but he is now a Democrat. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His days pass in the pursuit of

his vocation, in the social enjoyments common to residents in the rural districts and the pleasures of domestic life, and his life is marked by no events except such as are common to the lot of man.



CLARENCE L. HOUSEMAN is the youngest son of Jacob Houseman, a native of New York. He was a shoemaker by trade, but later in life became a farmer in Orleans County, N. Y., where he resided many years. He married Polly Loudon, a native of the Keystone State and on her mother's side of German descent. In 1837 they removed to Michigan and settled on a farm in Blackman Township, Jackson County. It was all wild land, oak openings, which he took from the Government. He cleared off sixty acres and cultivated it, building a log house and a log barn. There were plenty of Indians and wild animals there in that day. In 1847 they removed to Ionia County and settled on section 20, Orange Township, not far from where our subject now resides on section 21. Eight acres of this heavy timber land of the new farm had been already cleared. Mr. Houseman built a log house here and afterward a frame one. His latest residence was on section 16, where he was residing at the time of his death in 1860, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife had died in 1845. During his last years he was very active in the Wesleyan Methodist Church; his wife was a member of the Free-Will Baptist. They were the parent of eleven children, eight of whom are living: Jane, Mrs. Steele; Mary, Mrs. Grant; Hannah, Mrs. Wood; Sallie, Mrs. Morrill; Ada, Mrs. Reese; Thomas; John Alonzo and our subject.

The subject of this sketch was born December 5, 1835, in Orleans County, N. Y., and received a common-school education, partly in Jackson and partly in this county. At the age of seventeen years he began for himself, working out by the month in Jackson County. He then learned the trade of a stone and brick mason, also that of a plasterer, and worked for four years at these trades. But, like many other brave young men

of that period, he left his work to fight for the flag of his country, enlisting December 22, 1861, in Company K, Seventh Kansas Cavalry. He had the honor of serving under Capt. John Brown, Jr., son of the brave and famous hero of Osawatomie. He joined the company as a private at Morristown, Mo., and went on to the regiment at Kansas City, Mo. He served the full three years. His first expedition was against the infamous Quantrell at Blue Springs, Mo. They then went to Humboldt to quiet the Cherokee Indians. Thence they were sent across the plains toward New Mexico, but at Ft. Riley orders were received countermanding this plan, and they went to Ft. Leavenworth, and thence to Columbus, Ky. They opened the Mobile & Ohio Railroad to Corinth, Miss. Then at Rienzi, in the same State, took part in the battle of Corinth, as well as numberless skirmishes and foraging expeditions. The next day they dashed upon the rebel Price at Ruchersville and captured his ambulance trains, but returned to Corinth in time to take part in the third day's fight of that memorable battle. They went with Gen. Grant upon his first expedition to Vicksburg, and at Coffeetown had a hard fight. They fell back to Water Valley, then to Tallahatchie River, near Holly Springs, and were the foraging party to provide for two divisions of infantry. They went into winter quarters at Germantown after a skirmish at Summerville. During the winter they did patrol duty along the Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

In April this brave regiment was sent into Alabama to join Gen. Street, and were with him at the burning of Atlanta, Ga. They had a fight with Wheeler's Cavalry on Town Creek, and then joined in a skirmish with Col. Ham's regiment down at Tupelo and Guntown. Thence they went back to Corinth, scouting all through the country to Memphis, and our subject was detailed in the district Quartermaster's department under Gen. Hurlbut, and remained there until the following September, when he joined his regiment at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. He took part in an active campaign against Gen. Price in Missouri in 1864. At the battle of Osage, Price was defeated. Here our subject's horse was killed under him at the first

charge. After this he returned to St. Louis and did guard duty at Hannibal, Mo., and later at Iron Mountain. He was a brave and intrepid soldier. At one time he, with a single companion, captured four rebels and brought them into camp.

Clarence L. Houseman was honorably discharged at St. Louis, December 22, 1864, at the expiration of his term of service. At the battle of Corinth he had received a severe injury, as his horse fell upon him. From this he has never fully recovered. Other members of this patriotic family saw hard service in the Union army. A brother, William G., was in the same company and regiment with our subject and served about a year. He died at Union City, Tenn., from illness. Another brother, George, was in Company A, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry. Being taken prisoner at the battle of Chickamauga, he was sent to Libby Prison at Richmond. He was exchanged and returned home, but died a month afterward, leaving a wife and one child. A third brother, Jacob, was in the Ninth Michigan Infantry. He served a year and died in the hospital at Murfreesboro.

The subject of this sketch after being discharged from service returned to Ionia County and went to work at his trade. In March, 1865, he bought his present farm, which was all raw land. He continued working at his trade and the next year began to build his house. He has cleared sixty acres of his land and put on all of the improvements. In 1880 he went to Dakota and took a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Grant County, S. Dak., near Millbank. He remained there two and one-half years and then returned to his Michigan farm. The last year he was there he raised sixteen hundred bushels of wheat and has received some returns from it every year since. He has one hundred acres of it now improved. He has gradually laid aside work at his trade and for the past twelve years has made farming his principal business. He carries on mixed farming, raising grain and good cattle and horses.

Mr. Houseman was united in the bonds of marriage July 4, 1866, with Euphémie Ritenburgh, a daughter of Daniel Ritenburgh, of Canada. By this marriage he had two children—Eva, the wife

of William Bennett, who lives in Ionia and has one child; Ann, the wife of William Root, who lives in Barry County. The mother of these children died March 27, 1873, at the early age of twenty-four years. Mr. Houseman's second marriage, in March, 1874, was with Ann Root, a widow, and a daughter of John and Mary (Dale) Nichols. Mrs. Houseman's father was a New Yorker and her mother a Pennsylvanian. They lived near London, Canada, for a number of years on a farm. The father died in 1883, and the mother in 1890. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are now living. Mrs. Houseman was born June 4, 1832, in Canada. By this second marriage Mr. Houseman has no children. Both he and his wife are members of the Free Will Baptist Church, in the local organization of which he is Clerk. They are active workers in the Sunday-school and Mr. Houseman belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic at Portland, and is also a member of the Patrons of Industry. He is a member of the School Board and has been for years its Treasurer. He was for a number of terms Highway Commissioner and in Dakota held the office of Justice of the Peace. He is a temperance man in principle and has always taken an interest in politics, in State and national affairs voting the Republican ticket, but in local politics he votes for the one he considers the best man.



GEORGE C. NUMMER. Among the prominent and successful German-American citizens of Ionia County, we take pleasure in representing in this ALBUM the gentleman above named, who has been a resident of Easton Township since 1855. He at that time settled amid the forests of section 18, on land that comprises a part of his present estate. In developing the property and bringing it to its present fine condition he was obliged to do pioneer work and endure the deprivations which all frontiersmen are subject to. The farm he now operates consists of eighty acres, well improved, the log cabin in which he first sheltered his family having been replaced by a commodious

dwelling and other buildings erected as occasion demanded.

The parents of our subject were George A. and Elizabeth A. Nummer, of old Teutonic families, and their former home was in Saxe-Gotha, Germany. There the son of whom we write was born May 21, 1823, and there he attended school from the age of six to fourteen years. He obtained a fair education and after the family came to America, which was in his twenty-first year, he spent three months in a district school, thus becoming informed in the English language, in which he transacts all business. In 1843 the family embarked at Bremen on a sailing vessel and after a voyage of fifty-seven days, during which much rough weather was encountered, landed at New York. They went via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence to Detroit on a steamer, and upon reaching that city they borrowed \$3.50 which they owed on the passage money and discharged that obligation. A brother of our subject was living ten miles from the city and with him the parents established their home, remaining there until death.

Our subject worked as a farm hand for \$7 per month for a little more than a year, and subsequently spent two seasons in Lenawee County working a farm on shares. He gained a companion in Miss Hannah M. Halsted, with whom he was united in marriage October 7, 1847. The bride was a native of the Empire State. She was removed from her family by death August 14, 1853, after having borne three children, one of whom is now living—Josephine, wife of Melvin Wood, a resident of Ionia.

Mr. Nummer was again married December 28, 1855, his bride being Miss Irena Wilber, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., March 29, 1830. Her parents, Sylvanus and Sabra (Blodgett) Wilber, natives of New England, came to Easton Township in 1855, and died here after having done much pioneer work. Eight of their nine children are still living, namely: Stephen; Mrs. Nummer; Ruby, wife of Augustus Savage; Clarinda, wife of Lucius Ward; Corintha, wife of Charles Chambers; Sarah, who married J. D. Bradford; Electa; and Alvira, wife of Stephen Nichols. The second union of our subject has been blessed by the birth of

three children—Le Roy E., Oscar A., and Jennie F. The last named is deceased. Le Roy is now Clerk of Easton Township.

Mr. Nummer possesses many of the sterling qualities of his sturdy and industrious ancestors, and stands in the front rank among the farmers of the section. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Democratic party. He enlisted January 3, 1864, in Battery E, First Michigan Light Artillery, which was attached to the Army of the Tennessee. He was with Gen. Thomas and was doing guard duty at Nashville when taken sick and unfitted for soldier's duties. He was honorably discharged August 24, in such a physical condition that he is in receipt of a pension of \$14 per month. He and his intelligent and amiable wife are honored members of society, and active in various walks of usefulness.




MYRON SLANKER. The activities of farming and lumbering and the endurance of hardships and privations, together with the breezy adventures of frontier life form the experience of many a boy who was brought up in Michigan in the '50s. The subject of our sketch came to this State when only five years of age, having removed to Orange Township, Ionia County, with his parents, Solomon and Hannah (Comstock) Slanker, from Wayne County, Ohio, where he was born October 13, 1850. His father's occupation was that of a gunsmith and locksmith. The boy's educational advantages were limited to the common schools. He began working out when but twelve years old in a lumber district, spending his summers with the ax and putting in his winters at school.

Our subject was married October 4, 1873, when Luthera Case of Eureka, Montcalm County, became his wife. Three children have been granted to them, namely: Alice, born March 2, 1875; Chloe, October 4, 1878; and Nellie, April 18, 1880. These lovely and interesting daughters make bright the home of Mr. and Mrs. Slanker. Miss Alice is at-

tending the public school at Stanton. The father of the household has done all the work of clearing the home farm and has it well improved. The house and orchard are a credit to his industry. He has five brothers and two sisters with whom he keeps up the family ties, namely: James A., lives in Chicago; Samuel S., lives at Carson City, Mich.; Harvey, a resident of Belding; Grant resides at Palo, Ionia County; Bryon resides in Ionia, Mich.; Mrs. Lenora Buckley is living in Palo, Ionia County; Mrs. Laura Tedhams, a resident of this county.

In politics Mr. Slanker is a Republican. He has been Highway Commissioner for one year. Mrs. Slanker is identified with the Congegational Church and both she and her husband are solicitous for the best good of their children in every way and are doing all in their power to give them a good education. Our subject belongs to the Patrons of Industry.



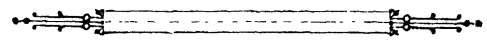
WILLIAM H. McCLELLAND, a citizen of Douglas Township, Montcalm County, and a disabled veteran of the late Civil War, was born in Loraine County, Ohio, May 30, 1847. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth McClelland, and he made his home in Ohio through his early boyhood. The year 1863 when at the age of sixteen years, was a notable and a momentous one in his history. He lost his father by death when two years old, a great loss to anybody at that age. But this youth at sixteen years had acquired more than usual maturity, both physical and mental, and felt that he was in effect a man. He nobly responded to the call of his country and went to defend the flag, joining the Union Army in 1863. He enlisted in Company K, Twelfth Ohio Cavalry, and was placed under the immediate command of Col. R. W. Retlaff, of Bloomfield, Ohio.

This body of troops was sent to Lexington, Ky., and operated in that State some little time, not, however, doing much fighting. From Lexington they went to Nashville, Tenn., to assist in driving eleven hundred head of Government cattle. After accomplishing this work they returned to Lexing-

ton. In June they fought with the well-known raider Morgan, at Mt. Sterling. In this battle two of Morgan's brothers were taken prisoners as well as five hundred of his men.

This company was then detached from the regiment and joined Gen. Burbridge's body guard. In this service they charged the rebel Col. Elsworth and killed him at Sulphur Springs, Ky. He then joined his old regiment and was sent to West Virginia, but was not there long returning to Kentucky and taking part in what is known as Stoneman's Raid at Kings salt works, W. Va.

In this conflict Mr. McClelland was wounded in the leg and was taken prisoner December 13, 1864. In the rebel camp or rather field hospital, his right leg was amputated February 16, 1865. The operation was not successful and the leg did not do well and our hero had to suffer another operation on March 14. He was then transferred to Montgomery Springs where he remained as a prisoner, until after Lee's surrender when he was forwarded to Lynchburg, Va., and from there to Richmond arriving finally at Washington. He was there discharged and returned home to Lenawee County with his regiment. He removed to Montcalm County in October, 1866, and in 1877 joined his fortunes for life with those of Martha Chaffee. Five children have come to enliven the home of this worthy couple but three are now deceased. Mr. McLelland is one interested in all public affairs. His religious affiliations are with the Baptist Church and his political sympathies and vote with the Prohibitionists. He has served several times as School Director and is at present Justice of the Peace of Douglass Township.



CHARLES W. HALE is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Keene Township, Ionia County, and was born in what was formerly Genesee County, N. Y., September 20, 1830. He is a son of Stoten and Catherine Hale, both natives of New York. His paternal ancestry is from England and Ireland, and the maternal from Germany. His father was twice married, and from a

large family of children the following survive. Stoten, living in Ohio; Charlotte, the widow of Mr. Doolittle, is living in the same State; Luther, in Ohio; Alvin in New York; Elizabeth, wife of Philip Shaw, in Ohio; Read R., in Eaton County, Mich.; Simeon, in Montcalm County; Hulda, wife of F. H. Lane, of this county; and Charles W.

When only four years old, our subject removed with his parents to Ontario County, N. Y. Here he was reared until he reached his nineteenth year, when he emigrated to Summit County, Ohio. In 1861 he came to Ionia County, but did not remain there long, as his patriotic impulses led him into the army. He enlisted December 25, 1863, in Company B, Third Michigan Cavalry. His regiment became a part of Gen. Steele's command in the Western Division. He did provost duty in different places, and never was in any field fight. He was honorably discharged November 19, 1864, and receives a pension of \$4 a month.

Ever since the war he has been a resident of Michigan, with the exception of a short time spent in Virginia. His boyhood was a period of hard work and little study, as he was deprived of his father by death when only two years old, and was early thrown upon his own resources. He has ever endeavored to make up for early deficiencies by extensive and varied reading. His marriage, May 6, 1861, with Mary E. Hale, brought him a domestic life of great happiness. She was born in Medina County, Ohio, September 20, 1840, and is a daughter of Richard and Catherine (Bogardus) Hale, both natives of New York State.

Mr. and Mrs. Hale became the parents of five children, two only of whom are now living, namely: Phlorus and Florence. Mrs. Hale is one of eight children, six of whom are living, namely: Mary E., Lucinda, Lafayette, Phœbe, Warren and Ida. Our subject resided for a number of years in Orleans Township, this county, and before coming to Keene Township, in the spring of 1882, he made his home for a short time in Easton Township. Eighty acres of finely cultivated land from the home farm. His property has been acquired solely by industry, frugality and enterprise of himself and his helpful wife. He had no one to give him a helping hand in beginning life, and even at the time

of his marriage he had not made any great acquirements. He had \$20 in hand after he had married and started in his new home.

Our subject and his wife are active and consistent members of the Christian Church at Ionia, and he has served as Deacon. They are highly respected by the community in which they live, and make themselves useful in their walk of life. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and is identified with the Patrons of Industry. It is with much pleasure that we represent him in this volume among the prominent and influential citizens of Ionia County.

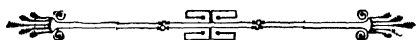


CHARLES H. HOLLAND who probably saw Montcalm County at as early a date as any one now residing in Douglas Township, was born July 20, 1861, and is the son of George Holland and Sarah (Rodgers) Holland. His father was of English birth and had traveled largely in many parts of the world. He spent seven years of his life in the interior of Africa. He removed to Montcalm County, Mich., when Charles was but three years of age, and settled in Evergreen Township.

The early life of this household in Michigan was marked by many hardships and dangers, and at one time they were in peril of suffering by privation. The only way the father had of getting money was by shaving shingles and hauling them to Ionia where he could sell them at \$3 per thousand. Flour and all provisions were extremely high, for example flour sold at \$18 per hundred weight, and the cheapest grade of tea was \$1.50 per pound. George Holland patented one hundred and sixty acres from the Government and began the foundation of a home. He cleared and cultivated the land and made a good home for his children. The father of this family was a good scholar and made for his children every opportunity for education. Three of his sisters were also school teachers and their influence helped to keep up the standard of education in the family.

Charles Holland was married at nineteen years of age to Rhodie Reynolds of Sidney Township.

They became the parents of five children, Charles F., born October 2, 1882; Cora, February 26, 1885; Cleveland F., March 25, 1887; George Thurman, February 22, 1889, and Lulu M., May 1, 1891. In the fall of 1886 this family made their home upon the farm of eighty acres which they now occupy. They have a handsome house with attractive surroundings. Their fine orchard gives a splendid supply of fruit, and everything about the farm shows energy and enterprise. Our subject takes great interest not only in the education of his children, but in school matters generally and all affairs of public interest.



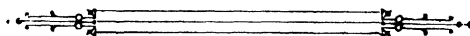
ELISHA T. CHENEY is engaged in tilling the soil in Ionia County, with the interests of which he has been connected for well nigh half a century. He is located on section 23, Orleans Township, on property that he has greatly improved since he took possession thereof in 1881. He has added a good house and barn to the buildings that formerly stood upon the tract and by his management has kept up the fertility of the soil to par, if not above. Although four-score years old Mr. Cheney retains his interest in the management of affairs and gives due consideration to every scheme that will be for the interest of the family.

Mr. Cheney is a son of the Green Mountain State and there also his father, Elisha Cheney, was born. The latter went to New York and made that State his home for many years, eventually dying there. He was a farmer by occupation. He held township offices in the Empire State and was a drummer in the militia. He was married to Phœbe Heudee and to them were born the following children: Elisha P., David, Donald and Jane. Mr. Cheney breathed his last in 1870, having been preceded to the silent land by his wife who died in 1863.

The subject of this biographical notice was born January 2, 1811, and remained in his early home until he was about twenty-one years old. He then entered upon his life work, that of farming, to which he brought a thorough knowledge gained

under his father's guidance. In 1844 when he came to this State he settled in Easton Township, Ionia County, and made that his home a number of years. He removed thence to Orleans Township and in 1881 purchased the farm on which he now lives. He cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson, but for many years he has been identified with the Republican party, which he believes to hold principles to which he gave his first vote. His religious faith is that promulgated in the Christian Church.

It is given to few couples to spend as many years together as has been the case with Mr. and Mrs. Cheney. They were married in New York March 4, 1829, and have therefore shared each other's joys and sorrows for sixty-two years. Mrs. Cheney bore the maiden name of Fanny Metcalf, and is a daughter of Phineas Metcalf, a native of Massachusetts. The sons and daughters that have come to bless her and her husband are Orsin, Henry, Jane, Edmond, Ann, Mercy, Alphonso, Lucian and Uz. Mr. and Mrs. Cheney are honored for their long and useful lives and number their friends by the score.



JOHN STORM. A pleasant home in Danby Township, Ionia County, is that which Mr. Storm has made by the exercise of prudence and industry. His farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres, of which he took possession early in the '40s, going in debt for a part of its value. For some years his life was filled with toil and privation, but he was encouraged by his devoted wife, who aided him in every way that a woman could. They gathered about them all the comforts heart could desire, and placed their affairs on a solid basis that removed anxiety from their minds. Of the settlers who were living here when Mr. Storm came few now remain, one by one the circle having been thinned by death.

Mr. Storm can boast of Revolutionary blood, his grandfather having been one who fought for American freedom; he died near Monroe, Mich., having come hither late in life. The father of our subject, Nicholas Storm, was a native of New



Yours Truly
C. Oscar Thompson

York, and his mother, Hannah Hall, was an Eastern lady. The home of that worthy couple was in Otsego County, N. Y., where their son John was born March 19, 1812. This gentleman came to Ann Arbor in 1834 and for a year worked by the month at what was then considered good wages—\$12. He then bought eighty acres of Government land near Lansing, but exchanged it for another piece which he afterward sold, buying instead the tract that is now his home.

The marriage of Mr. Storm to Miss Harriet Moe took place November 22, 1837. The bride was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Moe, who were of French descent and came to this State from New York in an early day. For nearly fifty years she was her husband's cherished companion, but on May 21, 1887, she was called away by death. To Mr. and Mrs. Storm three children were born who are named respectively, Garry, Charles and George. The latter still resides beneath the parental roof. Charles married Rosetta Bery and had two children—Clarence and Mary. His grandson Clarence when about fourteen years old lost his life in the attempt to save a companion from drowning.

Mr. Storm has always voted a Democratic ticket and attended the town meetings, but taken no active part in political work. He was reared under the tenets of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but has never united with any religious body.



C OSCAR THOMPSON is perhaps as well known as any resident in Ionia, Ionia County, as he has been prominent in church work and has filled public positions of responsibility. He came here in early manhood and for a time had charge of the public schools. He had begun teaching at the early age of eighteen years and carried on the work for a decade, principally in the winter. He was born in Genesee County, N. Y., August 30, 1827, and spent his boyhood and youth upon a farm. He was so fortunate as to have excellent school privileges, taking the higher branches in Alexander Academy in New York and in what is now Hillsdale College, this State.

The parents of our subject were Chauncy and

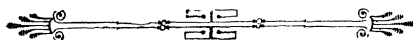
Clarissa (Reynolds) Thompson, who were born in Vermont and New York respectively, and the former of whom belonged to a family that came originally from England and was among the first settlers in New England. In 1847 the Thompsons came to this State, the family at that time consisting of husband, wife and six children. Mr. Thompson died here November 5, 1855; his widow lived to be eighty-five years old, passing away May 1, 1888. The surviving children are Mrs. Lucetta Freeman of Ionia; Mrs. Laura M. Mills of San Jose, Cal.; Mrs. Loretta T. Schuberth, also of San Jose; and the son who is the subject of this biography. The father was a farmer and occupied property near the city of Ionia.

The first work of our subject in this county has been already mentioned. In 1856 he was elected Registrar and following this he was Deputy County Treasurer until 1861 when he went to Washington, D. C., as clerk in the General Land Office. After a time, upon solicitation of the Pension Commissioner, he was transferred to the Pension Bureau, where he remained until the close of the war. He then returned to Ionia, saying that there were many deserving men who had lost limbs in their country's service, but were not incapacitated for such work as he had been doing, and that able-bodied men should give way to them.

Upon reaching his old home Mr. Thompson made arrangements for going into the dry-goods business with E. S. Johnson, but the venture did not prove successful and he lost the \$3,000 he had invested. He had been appointed Revenue Inspector and paid but little personal attention to the dry-goods trade. He subsequently became clerk to the Revenue Assessor and did all the work of the office, holding the place until the law was modified so as to put the business into the hands of a Collector. He then entered upon the real estate and insurance business, which he followed until 1877, when he received the appointment of Treasurer of the State House of Correction and Reformatory and of the Michigan Asylum for insane criminals at Ionia. These offices were held by Mr. Thompson until 1884, when he again entered upon a private business life, engaging in the disposal of real estate and making loans.

The wife of Mr. Thompson was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary Burgess, and was formerly a resident of Eureka, this State. Their marriage took place May 22, 1852, and their home has been gladdened by the presence of five children, but two only are now living—Louis and Cassie, both under the parental roof. Mr. Thompson is a staunch Republican in politics. He is a reliable, public-spirited citizen and one whose example is worthy of emulation. He is an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, a position he has held twenty-five years, and is also Clerk.

In connection with this biographical notice, a lithographic portrait of Mr. Thompson is presented to our readers.



BYRON E. HESS, M. D., one of the prominent physicians of Ionia County practicing medicine at Clarksville, was born at Corning, Steuben County, N. Y., December 28, 1836. His parents were Dioclesion and Lydia A. (Gaylord) Hess. The father was a native of New York and was of German descent. His grandfather served in the War of 1812, and his great-grandfather was killed in a battle with the Indians. The mother of our subject was a native of Connecticut. The parental home was in New York until in 1837 when Mr. Hess came West and in 1838 the family removed to Michigan, purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land in Boston Township, Ionia County. Mr. Hess built a log house on his farm into which he moved his family and commenced the work of clearing and improving his land. In 1848 he sold this farm and purchased one near Saranac. Here he resided until May 12, 1851, when he died at the age of forty-one years. His wife survived him until October 1887, when she passed away at the age of seventy years. In politics he was a Whig. Both he and his good wife were earnest and useful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were the parents of six children, five of whom survive them, namely: Byron E.; Henry H. residing in Henry County, Iowa; Oliver, a lawyer at Lamar, Col.; Lydia A., Mrs. Prescott, residing at Oakland,

Cal., and Diantha, Mrs. Peter Hill, who makes her home at Carthage, Mo.

Byron E. Hess was brought by his parents to Ionia County when only eighteen months old. At the death of his father he took charge of the family as he was the oldest son and heavy responsibilities devolved upon him. He had sedulously improved all opportunities for education provided by the district schools and devoted to study what time he was able to take from home duties. When the Civil War broke out he gave over into the hands of his younger brothers, the care of the family and the farm duties and enlisted in Company D, Third Michigan Infantry. He was mustered into the service June 10, 1861, under the command of Capt. Moses B. Houghton. He saw severe service and participated in many hard-fought battles, among which was the battle of Stoneman's Ford on nearly the same site where the battle of Bull Run occurred. It was fought a few days previous to that famous battle, in which he also took part. He was also at the battles of Ball's Bluff and Yorktown, Williamsburg and Seven Pines. He was in McClellan's seven-days' fight, when he returned from Seven Pines to Harrison's Landing.

In the second battle of Bull Run the subject of this sketch was severely wounded, being shot through the left breast and left arm. The battle commenced Thursday evening and about two o'clock on Friday afternoon he was acting as Lieutenant, and while making a charge against Jackson's corps he was wounded and fell on the battlefield where the opposing lines were within ten feet of each other. After this engagement but six men of this company returned to tell the tale. Lieut. Hess lay on the battlefield wounded and helpless for five days. When he first became conscious he found he was lying on the top of a small grade, with the enemy on one side and the Union forces on the other. Very heavy firing was going on; he managed to crawl down the embankment to a little safer place. In a short time the Union forces were driven back and the enemy came rushing over the grade at the foot of which lay a large number of dead and wounded. The enemy stopped and asked many of them if they were wounded, and on proof of that would pass along, but unprincipled strag-

glers in the rear made raids upon the dead and helpless men, taking from them their valuables. One man took from our suffering friend his boots and hat. Next it was the turn for the rebels to be forced to retreat. The wounded men were faint with loss of blood and parched with thirst. They were begging for water and felt they were dying of thirst. During the retreat of the enemy one Southern soldier heard the cries of the helpless ones for water, and amidst the fire of the Union forces stopped to see what he could do for his suffering enemies; the bullets were flying like hail. This noble soldier laid down his gun and gathering up a number of canteens which were strewn upon the ground brought them filled with water to the thirst-stricken sufferers. Soothed by this act of kindness and the health-giving water our subject became more quiet; he soon became unconscious again and knew nothing of the events of the night. Early the next morning he saw approaching him a small detachment of Southern soldiers in command of an officer. He called to him and begged to be taken to the Union lines, which were only about sixty rods away. The wounded man promised the officer \$100 if he would do this, as he could see that there were preparations on foot for another day of warfare, and he knew that he was on the ground which would be run over by both armies. The rebel officer answered him kindly and promised to attend to him. He returned very soon with four men and a stretcher, upon which they carried Lieut. Hess, not to the Union lines but half a mile in the rear where they laid him down in the woods and bade him good bye.

The chances for life seemed very small to our hero. He lay on the ground all day, at times conscious and watchful of what was going on about him, but often entirely unconscious of his surroundings. The booming of the cannon and the rattle of musketry came to him from without the woods. He slept at night and on the following morning found that many of his own comrades lay wounded and dying about him. During the day he was picked up by a comrade, Christian Berringer, who had been searching for him by special permission from the officer of the field, he being a prisoner at the time. Bringing a stretcher and

some more men he carried him as gently as possible to the stream. They met a man who had in his hand some hoe cake and broiled fish. He kindly gave a part of his food to the wounded man who was too weak to eat it. He had swallowed no food and almost no water for three days and had lost much blood by his wound. They laid him down near the stream of Bull Run with nine other officers whom they had found, and there they remained until Wednesday night, being for five days with no protection from the storm except a blanket.

On the evening of Wednesday they were picked up by the ambulance wagons and Lieut. Hess taken to Emery Hospital at Washington, where he remained about four weeks, during which time his wounds received most skillful attention. But his condition was indeed a serious one. The prolonged exposure following upon the serious flesh wound had induced complications which were difficult to meet. The flesh of his arm on the under side from near the shoulder to the elbow had dropped off. In the Armory Square Hospital to which he was removed, they tried the experiment of drawing flesh around from the front side, hoping to make it grow over the bone. Dr. D. W. Bliss had him transferred to his house where he remained for nearly two months. He was then comfortable enough to go home and received a leave of absence. He went to his mother who resides at Como, Ill., where he remained about six weeks.

Our hero returned to Saranac to visit the girl he left behind him—Mary E. Champlin. This loyal daughter of America now consented to unite her life with that of this brave defender of our flag and February 21, 1863, their marriage took place. In April the hope which had been entertained that his arm might be saved, was at last abandoned and it was amputated at the shoulder by Dr. H. H. Power. After recovering from this operation he returned to Washington and May 20, 1863, was retired from active service, but March 25, 1864, he was transferred by Abraham Lincoln to the Veteran Reserve Corps, where he took rank as Second Lieutenant. In this capacity he served until October 6, 1866, when he was honorably discharged.

Upon leaving the service Lieut. Hess made his home in Saranac, and studied medicine with his

faithful friend and good surgeon, Dr. Power. During the winter of 1876-77 he attended the St. Louis Medical College, and the following season was a student in the Missouri Medical College in the same city. He then returned to Saranac and began to practice medicine. Two years later he removed to Bonanza, now called Lake Odessa, but after a practice there of four years he removed to Clarksville and engaged in the double business of the practice of medicine and the keeping of a drug-store, and in which he has built up a lucrative business. For three years he was Postmaster at Clarksville. He was formerly a member of the Republican party but is now a Democrat. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Dr. and Mrs. Hess are the parents of five children: Edwin J., who resides in Des Moines, Iowa; Willard, Frederick R., Allie E. and Iva E. This family is well known throughout the county and held in the highest esteem by all.



WALTER MAYES. It seems but a short time since Montcalm County was covered with heavy forests and resounded with the blows of the woodman's axe. Now a large part of it consists of well-developed farms and in many localities beautiful buildings and other evidences of prosperity and refinement are to be seen. The home of Mr. Mayes is on a well-regulated estate in Crystal Township consisting of two hundred and forty acres. Here is to be seen a fine two-story dwelling containing thirteen rooms, which was built by our subject, and is furnished in accordance with the means and taste of the family that occupies it. Among the outbuildings are two large barns that afford shelter for fine stock and the requisite fodder.

Mr. Mayes was born in Delaware County, N. Y., February 11, 1843, and is a son of Edmond and Hannah (Mulnynex) Mayes. His parents were born in the Empire State and his father was a farmer. When Walter was but eleven years old his father died and he was obliged to take up the burdens of manhood and labor for the support of

the family. He had but meagre opportunities to obtain an education, as he could only attend school during the winter months. In 1862 he came to this State and located in Reynolds Township, Ionia County. There he was pursuing an industrious course when he determined to enter the Union Army, and in December, 1863, he enlisted in the First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. He was sent to Bridgeport, Ala., and took part in the building of fortifications, warehouses and other kinds of constructive work, including bridges. He did not take part as a fighter in any engagement but was drilled to a limited extent, it being the custom to prepare the engineers' corps for defensive measures should it be necessary. Being taken sick, Mr. Mayes was sent to the general hospital at Madison, Ind., and he was finally discharged in May, 1865, under a general order from that institution.

After his discharge Mr. Mayes returned direct to Ionia County, but he was so disabled that he could not engage in farming until the spring of 1867. He then cleared a tract of eighty acres, on which he lived until the fall of 1877, and then bought his present farm, or rather one hundred and sixty acres of it, afterward adding the balance. He found only a garden patch cleared and he has had much to do in preparing the original homestead for cultivation. In addition to this property he has one hundred and twenty acres in Evergreen Township, which he intends to ultimately use for sheep pasturage. He keeps from eighty to one hundred head of sheep and a good supply of Short-horn cattle. He pays little attention to fine breeding, but likes good stock, and aims to keep only the best.

An interesting ceremony took place May 2, 1868, it being the marriage of Mr. Mayes and Miss Rachel Weaver, of Bloomer Township. Mr. and Mrs. Mayes have had eight children, two of whom, Witsell and Ida, died in infancy. The survivors are Delbert, born September 26, 1869; Wilber, March 28, 1871; Nelia, October 19, 1873; John, April 23, 1874; Matthew, December 25, 1883; and Blaine, January 20, 1886. All are with their parents except Wilber, who is now attending college at Alma.

Like all good citizens and progressive men Mr. Mayes is anxious that good schools should prevail,

and he and his wife have shown much interest in the mental progress of their children. Both husband and wife belong to the Baptist Church, and it is their endeavor to live in accordance with the profession they have made. Mr. Mayes is looked upon as one of the best farmers in the vicinity and as a citizen of intelligence and reliability.



JABEZ H. CLARK. The connection of this gentleman with the affairs of Ionia County began in 1849, when Orleans Township was but sparsely settled and arduous toil was needed to bring property under cultivation. Mr. Clark not only cleared land for himself but did much similar work for others, and indeed his whole life has been marked with industry and perseverance. His first purchase here was of eighty acres on section 28, and he has since added sixty-five acres. Upon this estate he has lived since his marriage. He has also a dwelling and an acre of land in the village of Orleans.

From Holland, Elias Clark, grandfather of our subject, emigrated prior to the Revolution, during which he abandoned the plow to battle for freedom as a Minute Man. His home during the greater part of his life was in New York, but his last days were spent with a daughter in Pennsylvania. He lived to be more than one hundred years of age. His son Peter, father of our subject, was born in New York and remained in that State until he had reared a large family. He was married in 1811 to Hannah Taylor, a Revolutionary soldier's daughter, who had emigrated to this country from Scotland. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Clark were named Stephen, Lucinda, Margaret, Jonathan, Mary H., Jessie J., Phebe F., Lydia, William Loyal, Jabez H., Charles, Russell, Peter and Hannah P.

From his native State Peter Clark removed to Ohio and in Medina County he lived about eighteen years. He then came to Ionia County, this State, where he made his home until his demise, which occurred in 1857. His faithful wife had died two years before. Both belonged to the Baptist Church. On coming to this State Mr. Clark

bought two hundred and forty acres in Orleans Township, but at his death he owned but eighty acres, having sold the balance. He was a carpenter and never farmed much, although besides buying the property mentioned he had taken up one hundred and sixty acres in Montcalm County when he came hither.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was born in the Empire State August 15, 1827, and remained with his father until he was twenty-nine years old. His education was obtained in Ohio and was quite good for the period. His marriage to Margaret Crawford took place at Esq. Kellogg's home August 17, 1856. She was a daughter of James Crawford, who was born in Scotland and is now living in Easton Township, Ionia County. Mrs. Clark died June 23, 1857. A second marriage was made by Mr. Clark December 2, 1857, his bride being Miss Sarah Johnson, daughter of Otis and Sarah (Plumstead) Johnson, who were natives of New York. Mrs. Sarah Clark is the seventh in a family of fourteen sons and daughters. Her union with our subject has resulted in the birth of the following children: Marion, Bertram, Jenny, Nettie, Charles, Fred, Leonard and Edith, of whom all are living except Marion and Nettie.

Mr. Clark has always voted with the Democratic party. He served one term as Constable. He was formerly a member of the Grange. His religious belief is that of the Methodist Church, but he is not a member of that body. His wife has been connected with the Free Methodist Church.



WILLIAM E. SPENCER. A good rank among the farmers of Ionia County is held by the gentleman above named, whose home is on section 23, Otisco Township. Here he has forty acres of fertile land on which he raises good crops, and which is the center of his extensive business as an apple dryer. Mr. Spencer is also engaged in dairying, milking about twenty cows and supplying the town of Belding with milk. Mr. Spencer was born in Livingston County, N. Y.,

April 6, 1854, and was a little lad of six years when his parents came West. He has spent most of the ensuing years in Ionia County and has been engaged in farming during the greater part of the time.

Our subject is the son of Col. George C. Spencer, who was born in New York and lived there until 1860. He then came to this State and bought three hundred acres of land which he operated, although prior to his death he had reduced his estate to one hundred and fifty acres. At that time he also owned a gristmill at Smyrna. He was not only a farmer, but a lawyer, and having been admitted to the bar in Ionia County he practiced as long as he lived. He also bought and sold grain and wool and was quite an extensive shipper of those commodities. He lived to a goodly age, dying in 1882. His widow survives and is now sixty-seven years of age. Her home is in Oakland County. This lady is a native of New York and bore the maiden name of Almira Gould. She is the mother of three children—Emma, Charles and William E. Charles is in Minneapolis; Emma, Mrs. Just, lives in this State. By a former marriage to Anna Hartson, the father of our subject had six children—Jane, Ellen, Frank, Sidney, Albert and Annette.

The gentleman of whom we write remained with his parents until he was of age and then turned his attention to farming as the means through which he was to gain a maintenance and add to the usefulness of his life. In 1882 he went to Grand Forks County, N. Dak., and buying three hundred and twenty acres of land he followed his vocation there some five years. He then returned to this State and located on the old homestead, but ere long he sold it and bought forty acres where he is now living. He was formerly engaged in the sale of merchandise in Coral for a twelvemonth, but with that exception and some three years—from 1862 until the close of the war—during which he carried the mail from Smyrna to Cook's Corners, he has given his entire attention to agriculture.

Mr. Spencer and Miss Lucy Campbell were united in marriage April 21, 1872. Mrs. Spencer is the second child of Henry and Anna (Smith) Campbell and her father was a son of one of the first settlers

of Macomb County, which was his birthplace. Mrs. Campbell was a native of New York. Mrs. Spencer is a well-educated lady, skilled in domestic knowledge, and devoted to the interests of her family and cordial in her relations to neighbors and acquaintances. The children born to her are Fred C., Jessie E. and George C., all living at home, although Fred is clerking in the post-office at Belding.

The schooling of Mr. Spencer was obtained in the common schools of Ionia County, but his fund of information has been greatly extended by his perusal of public journals. He is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. His life is characterized by energy, honesty and goodwill, and his standing in the community is assured.



NOBLE H. GILMORE was one of the boy pioneers of Sidney Township, Montcalm County, who endured hardships and encountered struggles which are almost incredible when told in the ears of the children of the present day. He was born June 20, 1839, in Nelson, Portage County, Ohio, and is the son of Henry H. and Lucy (Merwin) Gilmore. His early life was spent in the rural districts, and his advantages for an education were very limited. Four terms of school were all that he was able to improve. At the age of eleven years he was hired out to John Spencer, with whom he was to reside until he reached his majority, but on the death of Mr. Spencer two years later he was released from this obligation and returned home.

In 1854 our subject's father and elder brother started for the wilds of Michigan with a horse and single buggy; he accompanied them. A good share of the way they had to relieve their faithful beast by traveling on foot. They came to Fairplains Township, and having located they shouldered their axes and started into the wilderness to chop trees. They had to walk three miles in going to and from their work with the snow sixteen

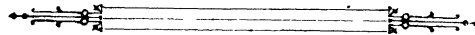
inches deep. They pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres, built a log heap and set it on fire. They thus effected a small clearing, upon which they built a house. In the corners of this hut they piled heaps of pine needles and there made their beds. A little later they split some rails and laid a floor. After one year and three months they were able to take up the land under the Graduation Act, and paid \$1.25 per acre. They earned the money for this purchase by making shingles for \$1.25 per thousand, living largely on venison. One year they were so reduced in circumstances that they had to depend upon the State authorities for food.

March 8, 1863, marked an epoch in the life of this young man. He was then united in matrimony with Miss Melvina Armstrong, and they became the parents of six children, all of whom survive, namely: Lydia J., born May 7, 1864; William H., October 27, 1866; Clarmena, born October 4, 1868, died February 21, 1869; Alta M., born October 10, 1870; Nina, October 19, 1876; Edith, May 5, 1881; and Chux, September 30, 1885.

Like thousands of the young men of that day Mr. Gilmore responded to the call of his country during the Civil War, and in 1865 enlisted in Company G, Eighth Michigan Infantry. He was sent to Petersburg, Va., where he did picket duty for six months. He was then put into the thickest of the conflict, and fought at the battle of Ft. Steadman and was in at the final charge on Petersburg, and was mustered out at Washington, in July, 1865. He returned to Detroit where he remained three weeks waiting for his pay. He was taken sick and confined to his bed for twelve months with a chronic ailment.

Our subject was not the only patriotic member of this family, as he had two brothers in the same regiment, and his father was in the Fourteenth regiment. He has never recovered health since his army experience. Notwithstanding physical infirmity he has cleared a farm of eighty acres and has it well improved. When times were so very hard in the early days he was considered an expert in getting out shingles. He would shave as many as five thousand a day, while an ordinary task was one thousand per day. He shaved in all eight hundred thousand, and finished the shingles for the original

court house in Montcalm County. He has been Pathmaster for two years and School Moderator three years. Anyone who sees the beautiful home and well-kept farm of Mr. Gilmore can hardly believe that he is the man who, no longer ago than 1854, traveled with his brother on foot to Lake Michigan, searching for work and sleeping in the dense forest at night, with a bundle of bread under their heads and wolves howling around them. Our subject was the first settler in this township, and on his farm the first tree was cut by himself, father and brother in the fall of 1854.



ALMERON NEWMAN. Few who view with admiration the thriving towns and fruitful expanse of farm lands of Ionia County realize by what ardor of physical toil, strength of mind and hopefulness of heart the country was brought to its present condition. Yet there are some still living here who have participated in pioneer scenes or heard them recounted by those who bore a part and who therefore understand fully all that was undergone by the brave and vigorous men and women who led the vanguard of civilization. Among those to whom this section owes lasting gratitude for services rendered in opening up the country, is he whose name introduces these paragraphs and whose memory is held in honor wherever he was known.

Mr. Newman was born in Ontario County, N. Y., February 26, 1804, and on attaining his majority established a woolen-mill in his native State. Tales of the fertility of the Grand River Valley in Michigan reached his ears and in the spring of 1836 he immigrated to the new country with his wife and three small children. They traveled toward the setting sun with an ox-team and landed at the confluence of the Looking Glass and Grand River when this section was a dense wilderness in which Indians and wild beasts abounded and but one white family had advanced before them. With little means, but strong hands and willing hearts, and the bravery and fortitude so characteristic of the early settlers, Mr. and Mrs. Newman established their home in a

little shanty near the confluence of the streams. Shortly after a more substantial log house was erected on the north side of the Looking Glass River and there the remainder of the lives of the worthy pioneer couple was spent and the joys and sorrows of a half century witnessed.

The life of Mr. Newman was one of more than usual activity, as in addition to developing and carrying on a good-sized farm, he erected a sawmill. In this was placed a small set of burrs, by means of which the first grinding was done in Portland Township. This was the only mill within a long distance for many years, and before its erection flour and meal had to be carted from Detroit or brought on flat boats from Grand Haven. Mr. Newman's half-brother, James, was a partner in the gristmill. He also erected a carding and cloth-dressing mill, which he operated with the assistance of the older boys for a number of years. It was of much value in the new country and financially satisfactory to himself. Later he sold it to Stilson Brothers. Mr. Newman was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Ionia County and served as Director for many years. He was largely instrumental in incorporating the village of Portland and was one of the first trustees of the place.

In addition to his active business life, Mr. Newman was soon serving the people in public capacities and for many years he held public office. At the first town meeting he was elected Clerk, a position he held longer than any other man has done. At the same time he was elected Justice of the Peace—a position he was well qualified to fill, as he had served in that capacity in the Empire State. So well did he discharge the duties of the office that he was retained nearly forty years, his resignation being finally accepted in 1873. It was characteristic of him to counsel peace. In the few cases that were carried up to higher courts not one of his rulings were reversed.

Under the first constitution of the State Mr. Newman was elected Associate Judge of the Circuit Court and in 1858 he was sent to Lansing as a representative and in the legislative body was regarded as one of its best working members. He was largely instrumental in securing the railroad through the

township and not only procured the right of way but donated \$1,000 to the project. He also donated \$800 to the proposed railroad which never came. In religion he was a life-long Universalist and a Deacon of the Church, until his death doing as much as and perhaps more than any one person for its welfare. He and his brother James were mainly instrumental in the erection of the church building. This useful life was brought to a close November 14, 1876, and at the age of seventy-two years this venerable pioneer went to his reward.

The faithful wife of Mr. Newman preceded him to the silent land one year. She was a native of the same State as himself and was known in her maidenhood as Miss Laura Berry. Of the family of the honored couple a daughter, Elmina E., died in infancy. The others are Newton, who died soon after reaching his majority; Frank, now a farmer in Dakota; Jane, now the widow of Oscar Hamlin; Edgar, a private in Company D, Ninth Michigan Infantry, who served his country in battles and marches for more than two years and died under the parental roof while at home on sick furlough; Frederick, a farmer of Portland Township; William, who died in early manhood; John G., who is represented in this volume; and Asa, a hardware dealer in Portland.



B GRIFFITH MILLER, D. D. S., is one of the professional men of Ionia, who are doing good work in their chosen fields, and can rejoice in a fair degree of worldly prosperity. Dr. Miller is quite a young man, and has been engaged in the practice of dentistry but a few years, but he is a skillful workman who founds his practices upon a deep knowledge of those sciences which pertain thereto, and the experiences of those who have preceded him in this work. His office is well supplied with the latest appliances for dental work, but not the least of the causes of his success is to be found in his own industry and application.

Dr. Miller was born in Canandaigua, Ontario County, N. Y., in 1865, and was left an orphan at the age of one year, and thrown entirely on his

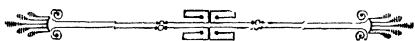


Truly Yours
Jacob M. Benedict

own resources. His parents were the Rev. Samuel and Anna Miller, natives of New York, and his father was a faithful worker in the Gospel field for many years. He was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Like many another lad left without home or means, Dr. Miller found life was not a bed of roses, but he had the pluck and determination by which to fight his way onward and upward. These qualities and habits of industry secured to him a good literary education in the Ft. Edward Collegiate Institute of New York, where he was graduated in 1882. He mastered the knowledge of dental surgery, and took his degree of D. D. S. from Indiana College of Dental Surgery in the Class of '85, Indianapolis, Ind.

In 1886 Dr. Miller came to Ionia, opened an office, and almost immediately began to meet with success. He has a pleasant home where he enjoys the companionship of an educated and cultured wife, to whom he was married in 1889. She bore the maiden name of E. May King, and is a native of the Empire State. The young couple draw around them the best society of the city, their own social qualities being conspicuous and their characters upright.



HON. JACOB M. BENEDICT. This gentleman has been a potent factor in elevating the agricultural status of Ionia County, and especially of Portland Township, in which he has long resided. In the paternal line he is of English ancestry, but the spirit that actuated the Colonists in making a declaration of independence from the mother country has been plainly shown in his progenitors. His grandfather was a home guard during the Revolution and his father was a soldier during the War of 1812 and took part in the battle of Plattsburg. The latter, John Benedict, married Phoebe Taylor, and in 1854 came with his family to Tecumseh, this State. He died there in 1862 and his widow breathed her last in 1875. Their mortal remains lie side by side in

what is known as the Raisin cemetery in Lenawee County.

The birth of our subject took place in Orange County, N. Y., July 26, 1832. He was reared on the farm and pursued his studies in the log school-house, whose description has become stereotyped on the pages of history. Not being satisfied with his meager opportunities Mr. Benedict began a course of study after he was of age, but was obliged to abandon it on account of his eyes. The loss thus incurred was sadly felt, but has been made up to a large extent by continual reading and there was scarcely a night in twenty years that he did not devote from two to six hours to the perusal of papers and books. Since arriving at man's estate Mr. Benedict has been a farmer, but for four years he was also engaged in the manufacture and sale of agricultural implements at Portland.

November 29, 1860, Mr. Benedict was united in marriage with Miss Nancy E., daughter of David and Minerva Bernard. The bride's parents were of English descent and natives of the Empire State, in which they lived most of their lives. Their daughter Nancy was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., but from the age of three to sixteen years lived in the Empire State. She acquired a good preliminary education in the district school and supplemented it by a year's course of study in the select school of Miss Chapin. After completing this course she was engaged in teaching until her marriage. She is the mother of five children, but one only is living—Lee M., who was born August 17, 1874, and is now attending the High School in Portland.

In 1874 Mr. Benedict was the Democratic nominee for Representative in the first district of Ionia County, and was elected by a majority of one hundred and eighty-six, although the Republican majority at the previous election had been eight hundred and sixty. For two years he served his constituents faithfully and well, and it was largely to him that the erection of the State Prison at Ionia was due. In various other ways he found opportunity to serve his constituency, particularly in matters of reform and curtailment of expenses. Although frequently urged to do so, Mr. Benedict would never consent to have his name used before another convention, decidedly preferring the quiet

of home life to the turmoil of public station. He is a member of Blue Lodge No. 31, F. & A. M., in Portland, and of the Patrons of Industry and Patrons of Husbandry. He has held most of the township offices from Pathmaster to Supervisor, and has also been a member of the School Board in different capacities. The township is one in which no political party keeps a balance of power and the quality of the man nominated tells in the election.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Benedict appears on another page.



WILLIAM A. STALEY. Among the many who are successfully pursuing the vocation of farming in Ionia County, mention may be made of William A. Staley, whose estate is situated in Portland Township. Since 1875 he has devoted himself closely to his farm, and has proved his ability as an agriculturist, harvesting abundant and varied crops, and raising the domestic animals which are generally to be found in this section of country. His estate comprises one hundred and forty-seven fertile acres on section 7, a prominent feature of which is a good orchard, where fine fruits ripen in the summer sun. The farm is well supplied with substantial buildings and is in every respect a well-regulated estate.

Valentine Staley, father of our subject, was of German descent and a native of Herkimer County, N. Y. He ended his days in Lima, January 23, 1853. His widow, formerly Mary Hamilton, who was of Scotch parentage and a native of New York, subsequently removed to this State and died at Muir, June 25, 1883. The son of whom we write was born in Stafford, Genesee County, N. Y., April 14, 1834, and reared on a farm. After obtaining the instruction given in the district schools he pursued his studies in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima for two years. He then, at the age of eighteen years, engaged as clerk in that village, and there and at Fowlerville he spent five years.

Our subject next came to Lyons, this State, and

after clerking for a year, traded for a stock of goods and for some years gave his attention quite largely to mercantile business. From 1862 to 1865, he was also engaged in lumbering. In 1869, he bought the farm on which he is now living, and in connection with his other affairs carried it on until the date at which he gave his attention entirely to agriculture.

The marriage of Mr. Staley and Miss C. Maria Collins, was solemnized May 29, 1859. The bride was a native of Livingston County, N. Y., and a daughter of Alfred and Mary (Hill) Collins, the former of whom was born in Connecticut and the latter in New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Collins never came West. Mrs. Staley has borne her husband four children one of whom, the first-born, died in infancy. Charles A. operates a farm on section 5, Portland Township, and his wife was formerly Miss Dora Howe; Mary is the wife of Harvey L. Benschoter, a lawyer of Portland; Clarence has for some years been with the Belding Refrigerator Company with headquarters at Cincinnati. Both Clarence and Charles were students in Olivet College in Eaton County.

While never aggressive in politics Mr. Staley is sure to be on hand when the ballot box is open and equally sure to vote a Republican ticket. He and his family are consistent members of the Congregational Church at Portland and are esteemed by their associates in that society and by the community in general.



ELIEL T. GOBLE, son of Ezekiel and Elydia (Buell) Goble, was born in New York State August 15, 1836. He was an emigrant at a very tender age, as he removed with his parents to Richfield, Summitt County, Ohio, when only six months old. His father was a farmer and a blacksmith and his children consisted of our subject and four girls, namely, Emeline, Susan, Hannah and Lucinda. When the son was eighteen years old he came to Michigan.

After spending one winter in Montcalm our subject returned to Ohio for eighteen months and then

came back to Michigan. He purchased the place where he now lives in 1858, cleared and cultivated it and made many substantial improvements, building a good house and excellent barns and outbuildings. The farm consists of eighty acres.

In those early days our subject indulged much in hunting and fishing of which sport he was quite fond. His marriage was celebrated on June 3, 1860, when he wedded Jane Gilmore, whose family is a pioneer one in Montcalm County. She was born in Ohio, and is the mother of three children—A. B., born October 24, 1861; Edna V., September 3, 1868; Minnie B., September 20, 1879. The children are all living and at home with their parents, except Edna V., who is married to Chauncy Green a thrifty young farmer of this county.

In 1862 he removed to Ohio and engaged in farming and milling which he followed for seven years. He then returned to Michigan where he has since remained on the farm. He at one time bought a large sawmill at Sidney Center and operated it for three years. He has held the office of Highway Commissioner and is now on the Board of Review, having served two years in that office. He is an extensive apiarist and a staunch Democrat. Mrs. Goble is the first girl that lived in this township.



HIRAM N. BROWN was born in the ancestral home in Ontario, Canada, July 27, 1842. He is a prominent farmer and representative citizen of Easton Township, Ionia County, a gentleman of sound information and agreeable disposition. His parents, James W. and Eleanor (Bates) Brown, are Canadians of English extraction. He is one of ten children, all still living, namely: Byron, Sarah, Hiram, Ladorna, Adeline, Maria, Omer, James, Eleanor and Munsell. His grandfather, Benjamin Brown, was one of the pioneers of Leeds County, Ontario, Canada.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in the early home, and received his education in the public schools of Leeds County. When about twenty-four years old he went to Orleans County,

N. Y., and worked out on a farm for about three years. His wages were moderate. When he engaged by the year he was paid \$250 and given his board, and when he worked by the month in town as clerk it was at the rate of between \$40 and \$45 per month with the privilege of boarding himself. Besides farm work he tried his hand at clerking in a store, and was also for one year in a machine-shop. He went back home to find his wife, to whom he was married September 10, 1873. She was Kate, daughter of George and Susanna (Conolly) Thompson, and was born August 16, 1844. Her mother was of English descent and her father of Irish lineage. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living, namely: William, George, Nancy, Eliza, Mary, the wife of our subject, Anna and John.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born six children—Alva J., Emily, Lillian, Walker, Ira and Amy L. He brought his household to Ionia County, Mich., in 1874. Here he owns two hundred and thirty-five acres of excellent and productive land. His first purchase was eighty acres, for which he paid \$4,000. In the accumulation of property he has been ably assisted by his hard-working and economical wife, whose sound judgment and good sense have always aided him in decisions of importance. They are both valued members of society and Mrs. Brown is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Brown has served educational interests as Moderator of the School Board. They have an interesting and intelligent family of children, and among the prominent families of Ionia County selected for representation in this ALBUM we take pleasure in presenting Hiram N. Brown.



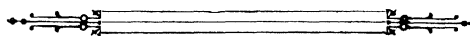
EBENEZER WRIGHT, residing on section 7, Orange Township, Ionia County, is one of those early farmers who, commencing empty-handed and working for others to earn purchase money, have acquired a good farm and established a pleasant home. All is the result of their

personal endeavors. Our subject is the son of Oliver M. Wright, a farmer and carpenter of Chemung County, N. Y., and of Sallie W. (Goode-nough) Wright, a Vermont woman.

The parents of the subject of this biographical sketch were married in New York and resided there until 1841, when they removed to Michigan and settled in Oakland County. In 1849 they came to Ionia County and made a permanent home on section 8, Orange Township. Oliver M. Wright died in March, 1869. His widow still lives in this township. These early and respected settlers were the parents of eight children, four of whom are now living. These were all brought up in the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist Church. Their father was in his early days a Whig, but in later years united his interests with the Republican party. Our subject, Ebenezer, was born September 21, 1833, in Monroe County, N. Y., and was therefore seven years old when his parents removed to the West. His education was received in the primitive schools of this State. At twenty-one years of age he started out in life for himself, and having earned the money with which to purchase a farm, built upon it a log house, married him a wife and established a home. His marriage in January, 1865, with Cellena Trowbridge, daughter of William and Emma (Yates) Trowbridge, has proved a happy one. Her parents were both natives of England, who emigrated to America in about 1847, and after remaining a few years in Canada came to Michigan in 1850 and settled first in Berlin Township, afterward making their home in Campbell Township. Mr. Trowbridge died in 1873, the mother of Mrs. Wright having been called away in 1844. The wife of our subject was born October 2, 1837, and received at the hands of her parents a good common-school education.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright are both members of the Baptist Church, in which he has for several years been a Deacon and where he has done efficient work in Sunday-school both as Superintendent and teacher. His wife is also an earnest Sunday-school teacher. They have not been blessed with any children, but have reared the children of others. One of these favored ones, Lydia J. Sears, now Mrs. Daniel Sumner, of Berlin Township, is the

mother of four children. Mr. Wright has been Road Overseer and School Director. He is interested in politics and votes the Republican ticket. His record as a temperance man and his good qualities in every direction make him a popular man in the neighborhood.



JOHN T. RENWICK is a successful and prosperous citizen of Keene Township, Ionia County, residing on section 24. He was born September 6, 1827, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. His parents, Thomas and Jane Renwick, were born in Scotland, whence they emigrated on their wedding day to America. They resided for several years in New York State. When our subject was about seven years old the parents removed to Ontario, Canada, where he was reared to man's estate. His educational advantages were limited, and he has had to depend in later years upon independent reading and study for his education.

Mary Laing became the wife of our subject in Ontario March 26, 1852. She is a native of New York State, where she was born in Seneca, Ontario County, October 23, 1827. She is the daughter of Walter and Jane (Renwick) Laing, the former being a Scotchman and the latter an Englishwoman. When about twelve years old Mrs. Renwick removed with her parents to Ontario, Canada, where they died. Of her parents' four children, three survive: Mrs. Renwick, Walter, and Jane (wife of Adam S. Turnbull). To the parents of our subject were born five children, four of whom are living, namely: Jane, Mrs. Foulks, a widow; Walter, John T., and William.

Five children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Renwick, namely: Ellen, wife of James Renwick; Thomas, Mary, (deceased); William and Carrie. In 1854 our subject and family emigrated from Canada to Ionia County, Mich., and settled on what is now the home farm. Mr. Renwick has done a great deal of pioneer work and has his eighty acres of excellent arable land in a good state of cultivation. In the accumulation of his

property he has been ably assisted by his wife who has been his helpmate and counselor for years. His political convictions are with the Republican party and in local affairs he is always in favor of movements which are intended to elevate the community. Both he and his good wife are earnest and active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and leading members of society.



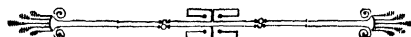
JOHN W. HALLETT was born in Cato Township, Cayuga County, N. Y., April 5, 1846, and is a son of Isaiah and Isabella (West) Hallett. In 1849 the father of our subject was a victim of the gold fever and leaving his farm, went to California to dig for gold and died there. The boy went to live with a Mr. Lemmon when he was eight years old, and remained with him in Cayuga County, until he was seventeen years of age, although after he reached the age of fourteen years he was allowed to spend the summers elsewhere. Up to this age he was sent regularly to school and had the same privilege during the winters until after seventeen years of age. He is now a resident of Bloomer Township, Montcalm County.

In July, 1864 the subject of this sketch enlisted in Battery A, Third New York Light Artillery, which during the first summer was stationed at Newbern, N. C. Afterward the company was stationed at Ft. Anderson, doing garrison duty there, and afterward at Plymouth, N. C. They were sent on a raiding expedition to Roanoke, after which they returned to Newbern. They were often sent out to head off and shut up Johnston's forces but did not engage in any general battle until the Kinston fight. They were at one time detailed to guard the supplies of Gen. Sherman. After Lee's surrender Mr. Hallett was taken sick with the measles and being sent to New York received his honorable discharge at David's Island in June, 1865.

The subject of this sketch now returned home and feeling that he would be glad to fit himself more fully for life's work he went to Rochester and took a course in Bryant & Stratton's Business Col-

lege. For two years he followed farming in the summers and taught school in the winters, and at the age of twenty-two in the spring of 1868, he came to Michigan, and settling in Carson City went into the lumber business. For two years he also engaged in the manufacture of carriages at the same place. He was then elected Justice of the Peace and with the work of that office he combined for some time an insurance business. For four years he was in the employ of Hall & Co., and also with Heath & Miller as clerk and bookkeeper in the hardware line. He finally went into partnership with Mr. Heath and the business was carried on for four years under the firm name of Heath & Hallett, after which he bought out the entire business and has been running it since in his own name.

John W. Hallett was united in marriage November 25, 1874 to Emma LaDue of New York. They have one child—Roy, who was born to them April 4, 1876. They are both members of the Congregational Church and are useful and interested workers in their church connection. He is wide-awake on all political questions and all matters of public interest and has been President of the village for two terms. He owns the corner opposite the Miller House and will this summer place upon it a fine two-story brick building.



WILLIAM M. REMINGTON, one of the venerable residents of Boston Township, Ionia County, and a retired farmer, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., November 30, 1810. He was a son of Wagar and Susannah (Mosher) Remington, both natives of Dutchess County. The father of our subject was a manufacturer of fanning mills, and was also a dealer in meat and stock. He bought largely of live stock, and shipped it to New York City. He was carrying on this business at the time of his death. When our subject was about four years old his father was on the way to New York City with a drove of sheep, when he was taken suddenly ill at Hyde Park on the North River, and died away from home. The mother died about the year 1858. William is

the only surviving child of his parents. After his father's death he went to live with his grandfather, who gave him a good common-school education. At sixteen years of age he went away from home to learn the shoemaker's trade. He remained with his master five years and four months, and then set up business for himself in Stanfordville, Dutchess County, N. Y., where he remained for six years.

During the residence of our subject in Stanfordville, he was married to Ann Jeanette (Hood) September 2, 1831. They afterward removed to Perry's Corner, N. Y., and resided there six years. He then moved to Hudson, N. Y., and being compelled by the condition of his health to seek out-of-door exercise, he went into the teaming business and ran a dray there for five years. They then removed to Wayne County, N. Y., where for three years he engaged in farming. He afterward purchased a farm in Savannah Township, the same county, and resided upon it for fourteen years. He then sold out and purchased a farm in Cayuga County, upon which he lived for three years, until in 1868 he came to Michigan, locating in Boston Township, Ionia County, and purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land where he now resides.

There were some improvements upon this new farm when William Remington took it, and he has added to them so that it is now all under cultivation, and well stocked. He started in life without any help, and by hard work has secured enough to enable him to spend his days in retirement. He now has his farm rented, but makes his home on the place. He has always taken a great interest in the improvements which have gone on about him, and in the social and physical prosperity of the county. His first vote was for Tory candidates, but upon the formation of the Republican party he joined it and has supported it ever since. He was at one time a member of the Grange and also of the Sons of Temperance.

Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Remington, seven of whom are living as follows: Wagar T., who resides in Ionia; Susan, the wife of Benjamin A. Servis, who resides in Cayuga County, N. Y.; George H., a merchant in Bangor, Mich.; William M., Jr., depot agent in Bangor, Mich.;

Silas K., a merchant in Russell, Kan.; Anna, Mrs. Albert P. Burr, resides in Boston Township, on a farm; Hannah C., Mrs. William Hobbs, resides in Antrim County, Mich. The beloved mother of these children died, April 13, 1889, at the age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Remington has now reached the age of eighty years, and is well-known and highly respected by every one in the county.



CLARENCE C. GILLES, editor of the *Lake View Enterprise*, was born in Winfield Township, Montcalm County, October 11, 1861, and is the son of Isaac and Ellen (Gordan) Gilles, natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania. The father was born August 9, 1832, in Seneca County, N. Y., and was brought up in Muskingum County, Ohio, whither his parents removed when he was a child. Here he lived until he was about twenty years of age, when he went back East to find his wife in Erie County, Pa. He was married in 1855, and coming to this county bought one hundred and sixty acres of wild land from the Government for seventy-five cents per acre. He located on section 2, of what is now Winfield township, where he still resides. The father of our subject was one of the very earliest settlers in that portion of the county and he had to go ahead of his teams and cut down trees for them to pass through. Everything was just as nature had left it. He erected a log cabin at once, and began improving and making a farm. He now has one of the finest and best improved places in the county. He has devoted all his life to farming. He came to this county as poor as a man could be and for sometime worked in the sawmills of Greenville for fifty cents per day to get money to pay for his farm. Greenville was his nearest market. He carried his wheat there on his back, a trip of twenty-four miles, and when it was made into flour carried it back in the same way. He is a Republican in politics and has held some minor town offices. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gilles were the parents of

five children, Clarence C., Joseph D., Lettie E. (deceased), Lela E. (deceased), and Porter A. Our subject was reared on his father's farm in Winfield Township. He received his early education in the district schools and pursued his studies two years in the High School of Lake View. He remained on the farm until nineteen years of age, then came to Lake View to be in closer attendance upon school and when twenty-one years old went into the printing business with T. F. Rogers then editor and proprietor of the Lake View *Enterprise*. He continued with this gentleman as an employe until October 1, 1887, when he leased the paper of Mr. Rogers and in January, 1888, he bought out Mr. Rogers' interest and has since issued the paper independently.

Mr. Gilleo, our subject, is a Republican by principle and runs a Republican paper. It has a circulation of about six hundred and fifty and is constantly growing in reputation and influence in the county. This young editor has been Village Treasurer and also Township Treasurer and is at present the Village President and member of the Board of Education. He is a Free and Accepted Mason of the third degree and is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

The lady who presides with such grace and dignity over the household of our subject was before her marriage with him, May 8, 1886, Miss Gertrude Wilcox, of Greenville, Mich. She was born in Eureka Township, Mich., and is a daughter of Enoch and Mary (Swarthout) Wilcox, one of the oldest families in this county. One charming child of three years, graces the home of this intelligent couple. Mr. Gilleo has been a member of both State and county conventions and belongs to the Michigan Republican Club.



WINFIELD S. AUGST. Among the foremost farmers in Ionia County is Mr. Augst, who has accomplished more in a score of years than many men do in a lifetime. Having begun his personal career without capital, he has steadily worked his way upward by industry

and a worthy ambition, and now has a good property, owing no man a dollar and with sufficient means well invested, to provide against a rainy day. His home is on sections 24, 25 and 26, Odessa Township, and his farm there consists of one hundred and forty acres, most of which is under cultivation. The improvements upon the place are such as stamp it one of the best farms in the township, and include a basement barn 40x56 feet, put up in 1885, and a large, substantial farm house, built in 1888. Mr. Augst makes a specialty of Percheron horses and Cotswold and Lincolnshire sheep, and he also keeps good grades of cattle and swine.

As his surname indicates, our subject is of German stock, but we find in tracing the family history that in 1761 the ancestors crossed the Rhine from France into Germany. His grandparents were Frederick and Caroline (Nead) Augst, natives of Wurtemberg, and in that kingdom their son John S. was born, October 12, 1820. That gentleman married Lucinda Krook, June 11, 1843, and to them came eight children, the second of whom is the subject of this sketch. The others are Mary, wife of Charles Olmstead, living in Gratiot County; Louisa, wife of W. Lambert, whose home is in Sedgwick County, Kan.; Lewis, a resident of Washington; Laura, who married Enos Olmstead and lives in Gratiot County; Viola, wife of Henry Lambert, living in Odessa Township; Ambrose, who lives on the homestead; and Ada, who is with her father there. The mother died in March, 1885, at the age of fifty-nine years; she was a member of the United Brethren Church. The widowed husband still resides on the homestead and has reached the age of seventy-one years.

Grandfather Augst was a cloth-printer, printing all kinds of cloth in Germany until his death in 1848. His wife died in 1851. They had six children, the only one now living being the father of our subject. He followed the occupation of his progenitor and became expert in printing and dyeing all kinds of fabrics. He served two years in the German army. When twenty-two years old he took passage from Havre to New York and was thirty-seven days crossing the briny deep. He went at once to Columbiana County, Ohio, where an

uncle was living, and for him worked as a farm hand a short time. For nearly three years he worked for various employers and during the time took to himself a wife.

In 1845 John S. Augst bought forty acres of land in Hancock County and engaged in farming for himself. That was his home until the spring of 1865, when he came to Ionia County, this State, consuming about a fortnight in driving through. On his arrival he purchased one hundred acres on section 26, Odessa Township, fifteen of which had been improved, and moved into the old log house that stood there. The work of clearing and improving has gone on year by year until the property has become a well-regulated estate. In 1864 Mr. Augst volunteered in the one hundred day service and was enrolled in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-third Ohio Infantry. He served twenty days beyond the period for which he had enlisted and was then discharged at Columbus. He has been a Republican since he became an American citizen and is a staunch supporter of the principles of the party.

Winfield S. Augst was born in Hancock County, Ohio, March 24, 1850, and came to Ionia County with his parents when fifteen years old. He received a practical education in the district schools and assisted his father in farm work until he was eighteen, when he started out on his own responsibility. Going to Montcalm County he engaged in work in the pineries and for about six years gave the winter months to lumbering and the summer to farming. He then set up a home on forty acres of land in Odessa Township, which he had previously purchased. A clearing seven acres in extent was all the improvement that can be said to have been made, the remaining acreage being heavily timbered. Mr. Augst built a frame house into which he removed, and then began cutting down the forest growth and sowing crops. Here he has remained pursuing a steady course of honest industry. In 1880 he added sixty acres to his farm and in 1886, forty acres more, thus giving him a tract of goodly size.

The marriage of Mr. Augst and Miss Celinda Davis occurred August 30, 1874, and their household includes six children, named respectively:

Jenny, Minnie, Mary, Leon, Eva and Florence. Mrs. Augst is the fourth of five children born to Orin and Hannah (Rodgers) Davis. Her father was of English descent and born in New York, and her mother was a native of Connecticut. Mr. Davis was a carpenter. His death occurred while crossing Lake Ontario in 1865; his widow survived until in January, 1880. Both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Besides Mrs. Augst their children are Daniel, now of Oregon; Ida, who lives in Buffalo, N. Y.; Silas, living in Washington; and Sarah, wife of Alvin Van Norman, in Odessa Township.

Mr. Augst supports the candidates brought forward by the Republican party as he believes that by so doing he advances the welfare of the nation. He has always been ready to do his share toward the building of the section in which he lives, and he and his wife have made many warm friends in the community. He is Commissioner of Highways for Odessa Township, and in 1890 was a member of the Board of Review. He is a member of the Patrons of Industry.



WILLIAM MATHEWS, one of the wealthiest of Montcalm County's citizens, was born in Allegany County, N. Y., May 14, 1843. His father, Samuel, was a mechanic by trade and was the father of two sons, our subject and his brother James. These boys began life under difficulty and were denied all opportunities of schooling, except those which they could find in the district schools near their country home. They grew to manhood in their early home and began work for themselves when they reached their majority.

The lady who presides over the home of William Mathews became his wife July 18, 1867. Her name was Mary Woolever and she is a native of New York. Five children are the result of this union, John, born December 19, 1869; Lillie, June 11, 1874; Charles, March 22, 1879; Clyde, January 17, 1882 and Jennie, March 4, 1888. The two first were given to their parents in New York; Charles'



Rev. D. A. Jewell.

native State is Indiana, while the last two were born in Michigan.

Montcalm County, Mich., was the first Western home of our subject. He came there from New York in 1872, and in 1878 removed to DeKalb County, Ind., and remained there one and a half years. He then came back to Michigan. He found nothing but a trackless forest and made for himself a home by hard attention to business and an indomitable perseverance. He has now what is probably the largest farm in the county. It consists of five hundred and ninety acres of choice land with substantial improvements upon it. He believes in prohibition and votes the way he believes. His religious convictions are in accord with the doctrines and practice of the Free Methodist Church, in which he is a consistent member.



REV. DAVID A. JEWELL. Ionia is the home of this gentleman, but his work extends over the State and his name is known far and wide. He himself says, in one of the quarterly letters which are a part of his work: "The noblest and most important work which can fall to the lot of mortals is that of molding the lives of those who are to constitute the actors upon the world's stage in the near future." Few, if any, will dispute this, or deny that according to this belief the work in which Mr. Jewell is engaged is deserving of the highest honor. He is employed by the Presbyterian Board as State Sunday-school Missionary and has displayed unusual fitness for the position. His record is a fine one, the schools he has organized since 1876 being three hundred and fifty in number.

Mr. Jewell represents the eighth generation from the establishment of the family in America. The patronymic has been variously written, Jule, Joyell, Jewel, then Jewell. Thomas Jewell was born in England not far from 1600, and the first authentic account of him in this country is in the early part of 1639, when he was given a grant of land at Braintree, near Boston—twelve acres at three shil-

lings per acre. Among his sons was Nathaniel, who married Mary Smedley June 9, 1676. He followed the trade of a blacksmith, which was one of importance in Colonial days, and was prominent in civil and ecclesiastical affairs. In the third generation there was another Nathaniel, who married Sarah Whitney, July 11, 1704, and following him was a third Nathaniel, who married Sarah Barrett January 9, 1733. The fifth generation is represented by Joseph, who married Mary Frane February 23, 1775. The direct line is continued in Joseph, who married Bitha Tyler February 23, 1801, and then in the Rev. Joel, whose wife, Mary Adriance, was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, Theodore Adriance, who was one of the guards at the execution of Maj. Andre. This brings the genealogical record down to the father of our subject.

The Rev. Joel Jewell was born in Durham, Greene County, N. Y., February 11, 1803. He was a self-educated man and was early engaged in Sunday-school work, and was likewise a pioneer temperance worker. From the year 1826, when he became active in the Bible work, he continued his labors until many had been added to the church through his instrumentality. In 1827-28 he assisted Dr. William Wisner in a gracious revival, which increased the church membership five hundred, and in 1829 he aided the Rev. Titus Coan in carrying on a meeting at Medina, N. Y. In 1830 he was Superintendent of sixteen Sunday-schools, which he visited in circuit, four each week, and the next year another was added to the list. In 1837 he removed from Hector, N. Y., to Farmington, Pa., where he carried on a similar work until 1843, when he entered the ministry.

For five years after entering the ministry the Rev. Joel Jewell supplied churches of Farmington and Beecher's Island, and he then accepted a call to the Congregational Church of West Newark, N. Y., and held the charge five and a half years. His next location was at Wells, Pa., where he was actively engaged three decades. Through him the word, teetotal, originated in this wise: At a public temperance meeting held in Hector in 1828 he introduced into the pledge the letters "O. P." for old pledge, which pledged only against distilled

liquors, and "T" for total, including both distilled and fermented liquors. When names were being taken a young man in the gallery said: "Add my name and 'T' for I am a T—totaler." Thus originated the name, teetotaler, more than four years before Dick Turner claimed to coin it in England. Late in August, 1829, Mr. Jewell organized a young people's society, numbering two hundred and fifty-two members, both male and female, which was the beginning of woman's connection with temperance work.

David A. Jewell is the second in a family of seven children, six of whom are still living, five sons and one daughter. One brother, three years younger than our subject, is also a minister, now living in Southern California. The birthplace of David A., whose name introduces this sketch, was Hector, Tompkins County, N. Y., and his natal day March 7, 1829. At the age of fourteen years he united with the Presbyterian Church at Beecher's Island, Pa., and went away to school with a view to studying for the ministry. He first attended Peach Orchard Academy, then went to Homer, and from an institution in that place was graduated in 1850. The seven years' schooling cost his father but \$30, the young man bearing his own expenses to a considerable extent by work done on Saturdays and in vacation. Two winters he taught school and for a long time he worked in a furniture shop, making chairs on Saturdays. It was his intention to go abroad as a foreign missionary, but after his graduation he gave his attention for some time to school-teaching.

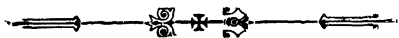
On April 9, 1851, the Rev. David A. Jewell was united in marriage with Miss Nancy A. Keeny, a native of Lansing, Tompkins County, N. Y. The bride was born August 16, 1831, to George G. and Hannah Eliza (Whitmore) Keeny, natives respectively of New York and Connecticut. The father was a farmer by occupation and spent his last days in Pennsylvania, dying July 2, 1855, at the age of fifty-five years. The mother died May 3, 1840, when Mrs. Jewell was nine years old, and a year later she was taken into the family of Herbert Richardson, of West Newark, Tioga County, N. Y., and that was her home until her marriage with Mr. Jewell.

The health of Mr. Jewell has been impaired by confinement to the schoolroom and the work bench, and it was necessary to make a change in his occupation. He therefore came to Ionia in 1856 and took up the carpenter's trade, at which he was steadily employed until a few months after the breaking out of the Civil War. He then entered the service, enlisting September 14, 1861, as a private in Company E, First Michigan Engineers. He was promoted to Orderly Sergeant, in which capacity he served two years, at the expiration of which he was commissioned Second Lieutenant and assigned to Company M. For five months he was occupied in superintending the erection of a large fort at Stevenson, Ala. August 16, 1862, he had come home and spent four months in the recruiting service, enlisting over one hundred men, every one of whom lived to come home from Southern battlefields. All but three of the number were mustered out together; two were then in the hospital and one had already been mustered out for disability. This is only an instance illustrating the fact that men who are at work every day enjoyed better health than the infantrymen, because of the regularity of their habits. Mr. Jewell was mustered out at Atlanta, Ga., October 29, 1864.

After receiving his discharge Mr. Jewell resumed his carpenter work and continued it until his services were called for by the Presbyterian Board. In the prosecution of his missionary labor he not only organizes Sunday-schools, but brings into harmony with his work those who formerly opposed Christianity—not by rousing their combativeness through argument, but by quietly securing their presence on some tour he is making, or during some meeting where they will see and hear what the Gospel is accomplishing. More than one of the best Sunday-school workers in the State have thus been brought into the fold. An instance that occurred at Paradise, Grand Traverse County, illustrates his success. It might be said that every man in the place was an infidel when, in 1877, the Rev. Mr. Jewell organized a Sunday-school in a kitchen. During the meeting two young men sat on the doorstep and listened, but would not come inside. In 1887, while organizing

a school at Mayfield, Mr. Jewell found there these two young men. They were so delighted with the meeting that they contributed \$1,300 toward the building of a chapel, leaving but \$100 to be raised elsewhere. A prominent infidel in Grand Traverse County says that the school established at Paradise "has stolen two-thirds of the infidels."

Mr. Jewell is connected with the Odd Fellows' fraternity and is Post Commander of William H. Borden Post, No. 211, G. A. R. He is Adjutant of the County Battalion, M. S. G., and is a member of the Soldiers' Commission. He has held various town and county offices, and has been a faithful servant of the people whenever he received their suffrages. He has affiliated with the Republican party since it has had an existence. His standing in the Presbyterian Church—without consideration of his Sabbath-school work—is that of an earnest Christian who never loses sight of the goal that is before him.



NATHAN F. GOULD. It is frequently said that Americans are a nation of movers and that young men are never contented to remain in their boyhood's home. This idea is refuted in the life of Mr. Gould, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Boston Township, who is living on the section where his birth occurred August 22, 1847. He is a son of Moses M. and Hannah (Towne) Gould, both of whom were born in New Hampshire. They came to Ionia County early in June, 1837, when there were but four families located in Boston Township. While Mr. Gould was building a log cabin on his quarter section he lived with a family by the name of White, and after establishing his own household in their little dwelling he began developing his land.

Moses Gould and his good wife passed through the varied experiences of pioneer life, but lived to see the section highly developed and occupied by a prosperous and contented people. Mr. Gould attended the first meeting in the township and helped to organize it. He was elected Justice of the Peace and held the office for twelve years, and

at divers time served in other official capacities to which his fellow-citizens elected him. He and his wife belonged to the Free Will Baptist Church. Mrs. Gould entered into rest February 19, 1881, and her husband survived until May 9, 1890. They were the parents of four children of whom Nathan F. is the youngest. The others are John T., a farmer in Boston Township; Betsey A., the first white child born in Boston Township, and now the wife of J. A. Aldrich; and Vashti E., wife of Stephen A. Aldrich, now living at Muskegon.

A considerable change had been made around the Gould homestead before he of whom we write was old enough to note its appearance, but still even his recollections are of a much more primitive region than that which now meets his eye. When a boy he saw Indians in their wigwams and knew that deer and other denizens of the wildwood were numerous around his home. He received a common-school education and has always lived on the homestead, taking the farm on shares after his marriage, but within a few years assuming entire control. He now owns two hundred and ninety-six acres of land in different sections of the township, the most of which is improved. The home farm is especially well cultivated and is supplied with good grades of stock and substantial buildings. In 1888 a large two story dwelling was put up to take the place of one that had been destroyed by fire, and an ample barn also replaced one that had been destroyed at the same time as the residence.

Mrs. Gould is the oldest living child of George and Philena (Darling) Ellsworth. Her parents were natives of New York, whence they came to Ionia County, locating upon land in Boston Township. Here Mr. Ellsworth died in 1863. His widow survived until April 10, 1888. They were the parents of five children, three of whom survive. These are Harriet, who became the wife of our subject February 22, 1868; Benjamin, a coal dealer at Wellington, Kan.; and Scott a resident of Ionia, who is in the employ of a railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Gould have two sons—Glenn M. and George N. The former is taking a scientific course at Ionia.

As School Inspector of Boston Township Mr. Gould served faithfully four years, and as Drainage Commissioner and Constable each two years, while

as Township Supervisor he was in office six years. His political allegiance has always been given to the principles advocated by the Republican party and his acquaintances always know what ticket he will vote. He is a man of public spirit who has done much for the advancement of the community and who conducts his individual affairs in a straightforward and energetic manner. He is held in high esteem and so too is his wife, who is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.



GEORGE S. HYDE, manufacturer and wholesaler of lumber and shingles in McBride, Montcalm County, is the son of Luman C. and grandson of Joshua Jr., of Vermont. The great-grandfather of our subject, the Hon. Joshua Hyde, was one of the early settlers in Middlebury, Vt. He entered Government land, improved a farm from the wilderness and became a well-to-do and respected citizen. He was the first representative from Middlebury to the State Legislature at Montpelier. The Hydés are of English descent.

The father of our subject came into possession of the old ancestral farm which is located on the old Burlington & Rutland stage road. In 1878 he sold this out and came to Michigan, making his home with his sons at McBride. Here he died in 1883 at the age of sixty-four years. He was a man of sterling worth and integrity. He was liberal, open-hearted and public-spirited, and a man of influence. He passed through the ordinary political changes of a man of his character from Whig to Abolitionist and then espousing the principles of the Republican party. He was a believer in the doctrines of the Universalist denomination. His wife was Marana, daughter of Moses Severance of Middlebury, Vt. Her father was engaged in bee culture in his later days. She is a lady of culture and education and has written many poems of literary value that have been published in our leading journals. She still resides with her son George at the advanced age of sixty-nine years.

George S. Hyde was born July 16, 1851, in

Middlebury, Vt. His boyhood days were divided between farm work and attendance upon the district and graded schools. From fourteen to eighteen years of age he attended school in the winter only. He left home December 17, 1870, to come to Michigan, intending to work in the lumber woods. He arrived in January 1871, at Sheridan where he worked at loading hogs for \$26 per month. He kept at this work for four months and then went to sorting lumber in a steam sawmill. He and his brother used to do the largest amount of work in a day of any men about. Their rate was to pile twenty-eight thousand feet a day. After three years at this mill he worked two years for W. B. Stone in his mill. In 1877 he went back East and engaged in a nursery business on Long Island, with the intention of making it his life work, but it did not suit him so 1879 saw him back again in Michigan.

During the time that this young gentleman had worked in sawmills he had acquired a practical knowledge of the lumber business. He became Inspector and filled that office for eighteen months in this vicinity at the Windsor, McBride & Howes Mills. He then took charge of Herdman, Corey & Co's yard, one mile north of Edmore, and was their Inspector for three years. During that time he handled over nineteen million feet of lumber. He then located at Edmore, and built a residence there which he still owns. While residing there he became Inspector for Just Bros., and served them eighteen months. In March, 1884, he formed a partnership with his brother F. D. as Hyde Bros., and started the wholesale manufacture of lumber and shingles at McBride to which town he removed in 1888. Our subject did the traveling and the road work and his brother managed the mills. In March, 1890, this partnership was dissolved. George S. Hyde is one of the largest lumber dealers in Montcalm County and handles the cut of from ten to fifteen mills. He is a partner in the shingle mill business at Gladwin and also in one at Millbrook. He owns two hundred and twenty acres in Osceola County and twenty acres in Isabel County. He is also a partner in the general merchandise firm of Carpenter, Foote & Co. at McBride. He owns real estate here and at Edmore and at Sheri-

dan, and is a shareholder in the Robson Opera House at Edmore. He began without a dollar and has been very successful.

Mr. Hyde was married in Stanton November 19, 1888, to Mrs. Minnie Covell, a daughter of John Roop, one of the first settlers at Carson City, Montcalm County, Mich. She was the widow of Capt. J. F. Covell of Company I, First United States Sharpshooters. He was a gallant soldier who served through the Civil War and whose wounds received in service led to his decease some years after. He was one of the leading lawyers of the county, residing at Stanton, and was for several years County Superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Hyde was educated at the Oskaloosa College at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and previous to their marriage followed the profession of a teacher. She has one son by her previous marriage, Charles C. Covell.

Mr. Hyde is a member of the Knights of the Grip and of the Union Association of Retail Lumber Dealers of Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania. He is liberal in religion and a staunch Republican in politics. His wife is an active member of the Congregational Church. He is altogether the most popular business man in McBride. He is a gentleman in every sense of the word, and is at once affable, genial and entertaining. He travels a great deal and makes friends wherever he goes. He is a man of fine physique and genial manner, his very hand shake is one of friendship. Mrs. Hyde is a lady of more than ordinary culture and refinement and presides graciously over their home which is a most delightful and tasteful residence.

Our subject was the second son and third child in his father's family of twelve children, of whom the following survive: Charles; Mirun resides in New England; John, in Vermont; Joel, in the Far West; Lucinda, wife of Chauncy Sweet, in Vermont; Mary, Mrs. Edward Jones, in Dakota; Sophia, Mrs. William Taft, in Massachusetts; Venice, wife of George Clark, in Pennsylvania.

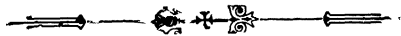
The early education of our subject was obtained in the primitive schools of Vermont, and his boyhood was passed upon the home farm in that rocky State. Here he met Caroline A. Babcock, whom he made his wife February 17, 1851. She is a native of Bennington County, Vt., where she was born September 24, 1830. She is a daughter of Harry H. and Samantha (Towslee) Babcock. Her paternal ancestors were English and Scotch, as were also the ancestors on her mother's side.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jepson have been born four children: Audra C., wife of Albert Wells, resides in Keene Township; Charles A., deceased; Samantha, Mrs. Freeman Wilson, lives in Keene Township; and Avis. For several years after marriage our subject resided in Vermont. In 1858 he went to California by way of the Isthmus, and made the trip from New York to San Francisco in twenty-four days. He spent about one year in California in gold mining, and then went to the Frazier River in British Columbia, where he remained about a year. He then went a little farther east, still in British Columbia, and mined there for awhile. He then went to the Columbia River, in what is now Idaho, and there mined for one year. He followed this pursuit in various places, and spent between six and seven years altogether in the West in mining districts. He returned home by the way of the isthmus via New York, reaching Vermont in 1865. In 1866 he was again taken with the Western fever but in a milder form, and emigrated to Ionia County, Mich., where he located on the farm where he now resides. He lived in a log house, but after one year erected the handsome residence which he now occupies. One hundred and eighty broad and fertile acres comprise the home farm, and he owns in all two hundred and five acres. He is a self-made man, and by his wife's valuable assistance he has succeeded in gaining a handsome property. They are

CHARLES JEPSON, a representative and influential citizen of Keene Township, Ionia County, residing on section 36, is a native of Bennington County, Vt., where he was born April 14, 1824. His father, Harvey Jepson, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and his father before him was a hero in the Revolutionary War. The family is of Scotch-English descent. His maternal ancestors were of English and German descent, his mother bearing the maiden name of Polly Myers.

both identified with the Royal Templars at Saranac. Mrs. Jepson has served as both President and Treasurer in the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, and is an active member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union at Saranac. They are both consistent and zealous members of the Baptist Church, in which he serves as Deacon and also is Trustee. Mr. Jepson has served as School Director. His political views are in accord with the platform of the Republican party, and in local matters he works earnestly for the upbuilding of society, being public spirited and progressive. To the parents of Mrs. Jepson were born five children, three of whom are living, namely: Mrs. Jepson; Amy E., wife of H. Myers, resides in Missouri; and Sarah A., wife of F. Richmond, in Belding, Mich.

That Mr. Jepson has been successful in life his broad acres and well-kept farm testify. He is well known for his good financial ability, applying judicious, conservative methods to all business transactions. He and his intelligent wife are active in all social movements, and their upright Christian character is universally esteemed.



O C. TOWNSEND. In this gentleman Hubbardston has a fine representative of its progressive citizens, one, who by his enterprise is materially forwarding its financial welfare in various ways. He is identified with its interests as a banker, furniture dealer and undertaker, and is also well known throughout North Plains Township, Ionia County. Success has crowned his efforts and he has become known as one who performs his duties to society and his family, as an upright and kind-hearted man should. No resident of the thriving village stands higher in the respect of the community than he, and by his own efforts he has risen to this position and to a good financial standing.

Mr. Townsend comes of substantial and patriotic ancestry. His paternal grandfather, who bore the name of Josiah, attained the great age of ninety-eight years; the paternal grandmother was known

in maidenhood as Dolly Parker. The maternal grandfather was a commissioned officer in the War of 1812 and had command of a company at the battle of Sackett's Harbor, N. Y. He died at the age of seventy years. The father of our subject, Warren Townsend, was born in Connecticut in 1800 and was a farmer by occupation. In New York State he was united in marriage with Mehitabel, daughter of Capt. Thomas and Elsie, his wife. The young couple located in the Empire State and there were born to them seven children, five daughters and two sons.

In Jefferson County, N. Y., Mr. Townsend was born July 28, 1838, and the years of his early boyhood were passed in aiding in farm work. When he was eleven years old he hired out to a farmer for \$45 per year, his employer at that time being William E. Dodge. With that gentleman the lad remained for two years, and attended school during the winter seasons. Until he was eighteen years old he worked at different places and then came to Michigan and entered the employ of S. G. Patterson of Calhoun County. After remaining with him two years he came to Ionia County and worked by the month for three years. In 1862 he answered the call of his country for troops to put down the rebellion and he gave his youth and strength to the service of his country.

Mr. Townsend enlisted in Company K, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry as a private and participated in the following battles: Perryville, Ky., October 8, 1862; La Vergne, Tenn., December 27; Stewart's Creek, Tenn., December 29; Stone River, December 29-31, and January 1-3, 1863; Tullahoma, Tenn., June 24; Elk River, Tenn., July 1; Chickamauga, Ga., September 19-21; Chattanooga, October 6; Brown's Ferry, Tenn., October 27; Mission Ridge, November 26; Savannah, December 11-18-20-21, 1864; Averysboro, N. C., March 16, 1865, and Bentonville, March 19, 1865. A valiant soldier, he received deserved commendation and promotion, coming out of the service with the rank of First Lieutenant.

Soon after the battle of Chickamauga Mr. Townsend received his commission as First Lieutenant, and a few months later he was detailed in charge of one hundred men, getting out timber and building

store houses in Chattanooga, and hospitals on Look-out Mountain. Before starting with Sherman on the famous march to the sea Lieut. Townsend was detailed as Adjutant of the Twenty-first Michigan Regiment, which position he occupied until arriving at Savannah. Before leaving that place he was detailed Acting Assistant Quartermaster in charge of the ambulance train of the First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, and this position he occupied on the march through the Carolinas and Virginia to Washington, where the army was ordered mustered out. Before leaving Washington an order was received from corps headquarters to proceed to Detroit with the records of Twenty-first Michigan Regiment and a detachment of the Thirteenth Michigan in advance of the regiment. Our subject was mustered out at Detroit and received his discharge.

At the close of the war Mr. Townsend returned to Hubbardston and went into partnership with his brother George W., in the sash and blind business. In this line of work he continued for ten years, during which time he made many improvements in the town and built a good store. He and his brother bored the artesian well which is still flowing. He built the house where he now resides, a fine two-story frame building, before his marriage, which took place November 30, 1865. His wife was Miss Abbie E. Brayton, the eldest child of William P. and Helen Brayton. She was born May 31, 1844, in Oswego County, N. Y., and came with her parents to Michigan when only nine years old. One son, William W., has been granted to Mr. and Mrs. Townsend. He has grown to maturity and is now in the dry-goods business at Hubbardston.



ALLEXANDER C. WICKES, of Day Township, Montcalm County, is the son of Green E. Wickes, of Stonington, R. I., and grandson of Ebenezer Wickes, of Rhode Island, who came to New York and established a farm in Rensselaer County during the time of the Revolutionary War. The father died in the fall of 1854, at the advanced age of seventy-

five years. He was an earnest and sturdy member of the Whig party and was a Deacon in the Baptist Church. The wife of Deacon Wickes bore the maiden name of Hannah Rhodes. She was born in Lamont, Mass., and was descended from Maj. Rhodes, who was on Washington's staff at the time of the Revolutionary War. The subject of this sketch was born in Berlin, Rensselaer County, N. Y., June 12, 1832. He received a common school education, but early began work on the farm. He continued at home until the death of his father, and had charge of the farm from the time he was seventeen years of age. The cultured and refined lady who is the presiding genius of his home bore the maiden name of Sophia Schneider. They were united in marriage in Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, N. Y., April 8, 1855.

George R. Schneider, the father of Mrs. Wickes, was born in Keirechdorf, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. His father, Jacob, was a mechanic of more than unusual ability and had a good business in cabinet-making and house-finishing. He decided to emigrate with his family to America and started on the voyage, but died on board ship, three days before the ship reached New York. His son George was also a mechanic and after his marriage came to America when twenty-three years old, making a voyage of between six and eight weeks on the sailing-vessel "Arena." He went to Albany and there worked at his trade of cabinet-making until he began piano manufacturing. In 1856 he located at Grand Rapids. Here he changed his name from Schneider to Snyder. He began at Grand Rapids the manufacture of the Snyder piano. He made the first pianos ever manufactured there and had great success in his work. He afterward moved his factory to Walker Township, but returned after awhile to Grand Rapids, where he now resides at the age of four-score and two years. He belongs to the Lutheran Church and votes with the Democratic party.

The wife of the subject of this notice was born in Blooming Grove, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 26, 1834. She received her early training and education in Albany. In 1855 she came to Michigan, staging it from Battle Creek to Grand Rapids. Mr. Wickes bought forty acres of wild land in

the township of Zeland, Ottawa County. He built a log house and hanging a blanket for a door, he rested at night with the sound in his ears of the howling of wolves. In the fall of 1855 he sold this farm and removed to Grand Rapids, but the following spring he rented a farm outside the city which he worked for three years. He afterward bought new land in Walker Township and improved and disposed of it three years later. He then bought another farm in Georgetown and finally came to Day Township and bought a farm of eighty acres.

Four sons have been born to this worthy couple—George P., whose biography is given elsewhere in this book; Alexander F., Earnest H. and Frederick A. Mr. Wickes is connected with the Patrons of Industry. He is a Republican in politics and wide-awake to all matters of public interest. Both he and his good wife are active and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is Class-Leader while she is the President of the Ladies' Aid Society.



SEYMOUR M. STEBBINS, a leading and representative agriculturist of Easton Township, Ionia County, has his residence and farm on section 29. He was born of New England parents July 4, 1831. His father was Chauncy M. and his mother Sophia (Rice) Stebbins. His father is now deceased, and the mother is still living in Easton Township, as the widow of the late Martin Kimball. Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living—Marietta, Seymour M., Armanella, Rebecca, Chauncy, George, Chester, Julia A. and Albert B. Chauncy M. and Rebecca are deceased. Chauncy M. Stebbins had served as Supervisor of Essex Township in Clinton County when a resident there. He formerly settled on a farm near Ionia which is now inside the corporation. A log house and a log barn were set up on a little clearing in the dense woods, and there the family lived until they moved to Clinton County; but Ionia County claimed this pioneer again, and

returning he took a farm which is now owned by W. A. Inman, where he remained until death called him hence. His wife, who still survives although now past four-score years, is one of the oldest pioneer women of the township. She resides with her youngest daughter, Mrs. Andrew J. Ross.

This venerable lady deserves more than a passing notice. She was born in Conway County, Mass., November 21, 1809, and was a daughter of Benjamin and Anne (Monard) Rice, both of Massachusetts birth. She was of patriotic stock on both sides, her grandfather Monard being a Revolutionary hero and her father a soldier in the War of 1812. Her marriage with the father of our subject took place in 1827. Chauncy Stebbins was born in Massachusetts in 1807 and was the son of Chester and Nancy Stebbins. Of this union seven children survive. Early in the '30s this young couple emigrated to the State of Michigan. Together they endured courageously the usual hardships incident to pioneer life. They were members of the Congregational Church. Ionia contained but a few houses when they came here. In the death of Mr. Stebbins the county sustained a real loss. Subsequent to this event Mrs. Stebbins became the wife and afterward the widow of Martin Kimball.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch received his early education in the primitive schools of Michigan, and growing up on the farm helped his father in the usual duties of agriculture. An event of great importance to the young man took place in 1852. This was his marriage with Ruth A. Gibson, who was born August 5, 1833, in Oswego County, N. Y. She is the daughter of Deloss and Lovica Gibson, residents of Keene Township, where they settled early in the '40s, having previously lived in Eaton County, Mich. Our subject and his wife have become the parents of four children: Mrs. E. L. Mathews, a teacher in the public schools of Ionia; Elmer S., who resides at Stanton; Elva, a teacher at Evart, Mich.; and Ella S., who resides with her parents at home and has also followed teaching many years. Mrs. Stebbins was one of four children. Her sisters and brother being Mrs. Mary Henry, of Saranac; Mrs.



Respectfully yours

Chas G. Bolte

Jabez Hull, of Lowell; and William Gibson, of Keene Township. Their father has served as Treasurer and Collector of Keene Township, and was identified with the interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His grandfather was a Revolutionary hero.

Seymour M. Stebbins settled on his present farm in the spring of 1852 and here he has made his home most of the time since that day, putting it in a good state of cultivation. He has served as Supervisor of the township and has always proved himself a practical and public-spirited promoter of the interests of the county. His political preferences are with the Republican party. His services as Highway Commissioner and Justice of the Peace, and as Township Clerk have been satisfactory to the people. Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins merit and receive the confidence and esteem of all who know them. His fine property and financial success attest his good business abilities and one needs but to know him to appreciate his generous intention and good will to all.



FATHER CHARLES G. BOLTE. The Catholic Church in its missionary efforts keeps well apace with the march of pioneers throughout all parts of America. The society is often the first to plant its standard, not even awaiting settlements, but becoming itself the advance guard. Realizing the importance of this early occupancy of new territory, priests from Corunna and Westphalia formerly came to Ionia and found a welcome at the home of Peter Hackett. Before the war they had gathered the nucleus of a congregation, and in 1861 Mr. Hackett donated an acre of land, and others pushed forward the work by erecting a house of worship. The Rev. Charles G. Bolte was sent by Bishop Peter Paul Lefevre to take charge of the parish, and he has remained steadily at his post.

The birthplace of Father Bolte was Hanover, Germany, and the date of his arrival upon the stage of human events July 18, 1836. His parents were

Christopher and Mary Elizabeth (Bartells) Bolte, who died during his childhood, the mother when he was four, and the father when he was six years old. The latter had been foreman in a paper mill, and in that establishment the lad may almost be said to have been brought up during his boyhood. In 1852 he crossed the Atlantic, following his sister, Mrs. Mary Osseforth. He first sojourned in Covington, Ky., then crossed over to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he entered upon a course of study. He attended college at Bardstown, Ky., then studied philosophy and theology at St. Mary's (Cincinnati), completing his course in 1862, and being formally admitted to the priesthood.

Father Bolte then came to Detroit where he was engaged in priestly offices for a short time, then went to Corunna, Shiawassee County, whence he was sent to Ionia in the fall of 1863. He found about thirty families within a radius of some fourteen miles, and a country not yet bereft of forests and placed under thorough cultivation. He at once began collecting means with which to erect a church and as for a time he had oversight of the spiritual needs of several counties, he was instrumental in building eight churches. These were at Hubbardston, Ionia County; Saville, Gratiot County; Greenville, Stanton and Maple Valley, Montcalm County; Otisco, Ionia and Portland, Ionia County. The cost of these structures in the order in which they are named is as follows: \$10,000, \$1,000, \$4,000, \$4,000, \$2,000, \$4,000, \$20,000 \$5,000; a total of about \$50,000 for buildings alone, and some \$10,000 more has been expended upon their furnishing.

As fast as the outlying parishes became self-supporting, Father Bolte would leave them to the charge of others, and since 1880 his labors have been confined to Ionia. The church here is a handsome edifice with trimmings of Ionia stone, and is one of the architectural ornaments of the city. The membership of the congregation is one hundred and eighty-five families, and the school connected with the church, employs two teachers. It is in charge of the Sisters of Christian Charity, and is known as Sts. Peter and Paul Parochial School.

Since the 1st of June, 1891, Father Bolte has been pastor of St. Mary's Church at Detroit, which

is a fitting testimonial to his large experience, as it furnishes for him a greater field of usefulness. He is interested in everything calculated to build up Ionia, but the care of his parish leaves him little time for other work. He has stock in the wagon-works amounting to \$1,000. Were he to devote his time to horticulture, he would undoubtedly make a name in that field. He has a decided love of nature and in the science of botany, which he pursues with the devotion of a lover, he is well versed. His grounds are tasteful and productive.

Elsewhere in this volume the reader will notice a lithographic portrait of Father Bolte.



JOSIAH H. GIBBS, proprietor of Hope Roller Mills of Edmore, is undoubtedly the most successful financier in the place, and the most extensive operator in milling and farming. Indeed the business transactions he carries on would be creditable to the residents in the largest cities of the land. By the exercise of fine business qualifications and great perseverance, he has accumulated a fortune, and is able to surround himself and family with all that heart can wish of material comfort, intellectual enjoyment and the pleasure that comes of benevolence. The Hope Roller Mill, which occupies the old mill site bought by Mr. Gibbs in 1887, is supplied with all the modern appliances, and has a capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour per day, and a feed capacity of two tons per hour. The business is run by the firm of J. H. Gibbs & Son, which buys all the wheat raised in the surrounding country, and receives corn from Kansas.

Mr. Gibbs is of English extraction in both lines of descent. His paternal grandfather, Solomon Gibbs, was a native of Massachusetts, and an hotel-keeper in that State, and his maternal grandfather, Josiah Farnsworth, was a farmer in the Green Mountain State. David Gibbs, father of our subject, was born in Massachusetts in 1800, and after reaching manhood went to Chittenden County, Vt., and embarked in the lumber business, building a sawmill on Brown's River. He operated it for years,

manufacturing various kinds of lumber, but finally retired from business. He died in 1867. He was a Free-Soiler and Abolitionist during the early part of the century. His wife, Ruby Farnsworth, was born at Fairfax, Franklin County, Vt., but reared on the banks of Brown River, in the neighborhood to which Mr. Gibbs came to establish his business. She also died in the Green Mountain State, the date of her decease being 1855. She was an earnest Christian, holding membership in the Congregational Church.

Our subject, who is the fourth of nine children comprising the parental family, was born in Westford, Vt., July 26, 1837. He may be said to have been reared in the sawmill, as he spent his time there, except when in school or asleep, from the days when he wore dresses. When quite small he often held the light by which his father continued his work after dark, and when but twelve years old he was allowed to run the saw. He received a good common-school education, as he was not allowed to neglect his books. When twenty years old he went to Burlington and entered the employ of E. F. Ward & Co., in a sash and door factory, and in a short time accompanied them to this State, coming round the lakes on the boat "Ogdensburg" and going to Grand Rapids, which was then but a small village. This was in the spring of 1857, and when the financial crisis came on in the fall the factory closed.

Thus thrown out of employment, Mr. Gibbs went to the northern part of Kent County, where he worked until the fall of 1860, then returned to his native State and found work in a sash and door factory in Chittenden County. In the spring of 1863 he volunteered, and as he was a cornet player he became a member of the Regimental Band in the Second Brigade, Second Division, Sixth Army Corps. He was mustered in at Brattleboro, participated in the battle of Gettysburg, and in other engagements more or less severe. He was taken sick, and in January, 1864, was discharged on account of physical disability. His family had in the meantime removed to Kent County, this State, and thither he came. While on his way to Detroit the train was stopped and robbed by the notorious Harry Gilmore and his gang. Mr. Gibbs spent

two years working in Grand Rapids, then bought a mill at Oakfield and carried it on two years. Selling out he again became a workman in the sash and door factory, but finding it necessary to take back the mill or lose the amount yet unpaid, he moved it to Maple Valley, and went into partnership with his former employers, E. F. Ward & Co.

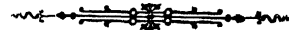
The new firm bought a tract of pine land, and Mr. Gibbs got the mill in good running order and began operations under the style of J. H. Gibbs & Co., but not liking the business ways of his partners, soon sold out to them. After a time he bought a shingle-mill in Solon, Kent County, and ran it there until the fall of 1876, when he removed it to Nelson Township, same county, where he had pine land. In 1879 he removed the mill to Cortland Township, where he worked two years. He next came to Edmore, bought four hundred acres of pine land in Home Township, and engaged in the manufacture of shingles here. He carried on the work on an extensive scale, keeping twenty hands employed and making a fine quality of shingles, having machinery with which to plane them. He sold the products of his mill as high as \$4 per thousand, and had a very successful trade until the spring of 1889, when the timber gave out and he closed down. He has made shingles from pine grown on over twelve hundred acres of land, and has an unsurpassed reputation as a manufacturer of that useful commodity.

Mr. Gibbs now owns four hundred and eighty acres on sections 22 and 23, Home Township, three hundred and twenty acres of which is under cultivation and supplied with a fine set of farm buildings, including a good house, several barns, two windmills, and various other conveniences for farming and stock-raising. The farm is personally superintended by Mr. Gibbs, who conducts the largest agricultural enterprises in the vicinity. He is also dealing in lands in California, North Carolina, Arkansas and Louisiana, owning large tracts of timber in those States.

In Gratton Township, Kent County, January 31, 1858, Mr. Gibbs and Miss Amelia E. Brooks were united in marriage. The bride was born in Leroy, Genesee County, N. Y., her parents being Lucius and Celia (Newcomb) Brooks, who were were also

native of the Empire State. Her father was born in St. Lawrence, then Genesee County, and went thence to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where he worked in the stone quarries. In 1850 he came to this State, bought wild land in Kent County, and established his home in the woods and reclaimed a tract of thirty acres. He died February 1, 1891, leaving a widow and two children. Politically he was a Republican. The daughter, who became Mrs. Gibbs, was born February 2, 1842, and was seven years old when she journeyed to Kent County with her parents in a wagon. She is the mother of three children: Lucius H., now his father's partner in business; Nellie L., who died at the age of thirteen years; and Carrie E., who married Dr. Louis A. Roller, and lives in Edmore.

Mr. Gibbs belongs to a Blue Lodge in Edmore, a Chapter in Stanton, and a Consistory in Grand Rapids, and is much interested in the workings of the Masonic order. Politically, he is a Republican, and he has served as a delegate in the county conventions. He has been a Village Trustee two years, and President one year. He possesses a wide fund of information, good conversational powers, and genial manners, as well as a high degree of financial ability and calculation. Mrs. Gibbs is one of those kind, motherly women, who carry with them an atmosphere of comfort, and no one who enters her door can fail to be impressed with the hospitable spirit of herself and husband. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a good worker in the Ladies' Society.



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WILLIAM E. HULL. This gentleman is one of the influential citizens of Keene Township, and one who bears a prominent part in those labors which have resulted in developing the resources of Ionia County and placing her in the front rank among the divisions of the Wolverine State. His labors in life have been crowned with success and he has a pleasant rural home where the evidences of culture and refinement are to be seen, and the various farm buildings which betoken enterprise and prosperity rear their walls

amid forest and fruit trees that add to the beauty of the scene. The beautiful estate is favorably located on section 10.

Mr. Hull was born in Ontario, Canada, December 23, 1831. His parents were Roland and Alvira (Lee) Hull, natives of New York, and his paternal ancestors came from England. His father was a powder boy on the fleet of Commodore Perry during the famous naval engagement on Lake Erie, and was wounded in that engagement, and his maternal grandfather was a soldier in the same war. When our subject was eight years old his parents went to Mississippi where they resided for a short time, next making their home in White County, Ill. In 1845 they came to Ionia County and settled on section 12, Keene Township.

The home of Roland Hall was in the woods in a cabin 18x24 feet and he did some pioneer work there during the twelve months after his arrival. He then went to California, crossing the plains and being six months en route. He was engaged in mining and other occupations and remained on the coast some eight years. While there he was elected Grand Lecturer of the Good Templars of California, and he also became a Royal Arch Mason and stood high in the order, lecturing in its behalf as well as in the interest of temperance. On his return from the West he resumed farm work in Keene Township, and died there November 3, 1886. He voted the Republican ticket and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He served as Justice of the Peace and Township Road Commissioner. His wife survived him, dying January 18, 1890. Of their children seven now survive, namely, William E., Jabez, Roland, John, Van Buren Marcus, and Zachary T. Oscar and Alvin are deceased.

The early education of the subject of this sketch was obtained in the district schools and owing to his father's absence from home he was obliged to assume management of the family affairs in his youth. He also worked out by the month, adding his earnings to the family fund until he was of age. He has been an extensive reader and has endeavored to counterbalance the deficiencies in his early education by this means. September 3, 1862, he enlisted in company M., Sixth Michigan Cavalry,

and while in the service he acted under the general orders of Kilpatrick, Custer and Sheridan, three of the bravest and most gallant of the commanding officers in the Union army. He fought in the battles of Front Royal, Opequan Creek, Cedar Springs, Winchester, and the siege of Petersburg, together with less noted contests that belong to the Shenandoah campaign. At Watertown, Va., he was captured by the enemy and was confined some four months, the greater part of time in Libby Prison. His health was so impaired by exposure and prison life that he draws a pension from the Government he served. He took part in the Grand Review at Washington and was finally discharged at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., July 10, 1865.

In 1852 Mr. Hull was united in marriage with Sarah Ayers, daughter of the late Isaac Ayers, of Ionia County. There were born of this union two children—Wealthy A., wife of Alpheus Sparks, and Carrie L., now the widow Scott. The wife and mother breathed her last October 14, 1881. Our subject made a second matrimonial alliance, winning for his wife Miss Emma Hull, daughter of Daniel and Jane (Catlin) Hull. Her father was born in New York and her mother in Massachusetts. They came to this State from Ohio in 1871, and made their home in St. Joseph County, where Mr. Hull died in 1877. Four years later the widow came to Ionia County, where she is still living, her home now being with her daughter, the wife of our subject. She is in the seventy-eighth year of her age. Besides Mrs. Hull her surviving children are Francis H. and Ruma, wife of Leonard Osgood. The grandfather of Mrs. Emma Hull fought in the War of 1812.

When he was discharged from the army Mr. Hull returned to Ionia County and resumed his work and has continued to carry on his personal affairs with zeal and good judgment. He is identified with Hiram P. Clark Post, G. A. R., of Saranac and is now serving as Chaplain. He has been a Mason for a quarter of a century and has taken the Royal Arch degree. He has been Treasurer and Collector of Keene Township, and has also served efficiently on the School Board. In politics he is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been Steward and

Class-Leader for many years. Both are intelligent, companionable and hospitable and their friends are numbered by the score. As a civilian and a soldier Mr. Hull has made an honorable record, worthy of the imitation of posterity.



ALBERT E. GESLER, M. D., a prominent physician and surgeon of Saranac, Ionia County, has been engaged in the practice of his profession about fourteen years, and enjoyed a large and growing patronage throughout the western part of the county. He was born on a farm near the village of Montville, St. Joseph County, July 17, 1850, and removed to Barry County with his parents when about ten years of age. There he received his earlier education in the common school, and subsequently pursued the higher branches at Hastings, the United Brethren Academy at Leoni, Jackson County, and the State Normal School at Leavenworth, Kan. The educational period of his life was interspersed with school teaching, both in Kansas and Michigan.

The Doctor's father, Lewis C. Gesler, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., May 1, 1820, and is of German descent, his grandfather having been a native of Switzerland. At Mendon, St. Joseph County, this State, September 13, 1841, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Snow. This lady is of American extraction and was born in Boston, Mass., October 12, 1825. In 1880 the Rev. Lewis C. Gesler retired from active participation in the ministry of the United Brethren Church, and he and his wife are now living on their farm in Barry County. They are the parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living.

As our subject had not a natural aptitude for farm life but rather preferred literary work, he was easily persuaded by the family physician, Dr. E. F. Brown, to take up the study of medicine, and in the spring of 1874 he entered the office of that gentleman as a student. In the autumn of 1875 he matriculated in the homœopathic department of the Michigan University, where he was under the tutorship of such noted men as Profs. L. A. Jones

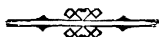
and J. C. Morgan. In the Old School department he received instruction from Profs. Ford, McLain, Dunster, and others of equal note. Wishing to enjoy the larger clinic advantages obtainable in Cincinnati, Ohio, Dr. Gesler matriculated in Pulte Medical College in that city, in the fall of 1876, and was graduated therefrom in June, 1877. On the 22d of that month he opened an office in Saranac, where he is still actively pursuing his professional life.

For a period of eleven years there has presided over the pleasant home of Dr. Gesler one of the most estimable of ladies, who bore the maiden name of Vesta C. A. Harris. She was born in Macomb County, this State, November 24, 1854, and until 1865 her education was pursued in the common school there. Her parents then removed to a farm one and one-half miles east of Saranac, and for four years she was a regular attendant at the village school. Another removal was made and the vicinity of St. Johns became the family residence, and there she was kept constantly in school until she was seventeen years old. At that age she began teaching, and continued her work either in Clinton or Ionia Counties until 1879, September 10, of that year, becoming the wife of Dr. Gesler. Immediately after her marriage she took up the study of medicine, and in the years 1880-81 attended the Herring Medical College in St. Louis, Mo., receiving her diploma in the spring of the second year. She has since been engaged in practice with her husband. To Mr. and Mrs. Gesler two sons have been born: James Farrand, December 27, 1883; and Carl Grant, November 6, 1886.

In the maternal line Dr. Vesta Gesler is of German extraction, and on her father's side she traces her lineage through several generations of American-born ancestors to one who was a native of England. Her father, Fayette Harris, was born near Saratoga Springs, N. Y., February 2, 1812, and lived in that State until the fall of 1837, when he removed to Macomb County, Mich. In 1835 he had been married to Miss Margery Forbes, daughter of Bartholomew and Leah (Anguish) Forbes, who was born in Madison County, N. Y., November 27, 1810. Mr. and Mrs. Harris had eight children, of whom Vesta is the youngest. At her home

the father died November 1, 1886. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Gesler were Mason and Roxie (Wells) Harris, of New England, who went to New York during its early progress, and thence came to this State to spend their last years.

Dr. A. E. Gesler is a member of the State Hæopathic Society, and in the investigations made by its various members and the experiences they relate he is much interested. Through this society and by personal study, and occasional attendance at our large city hospitals, he keeps himself in touch with the latest theories and discoveries in medical science and those branches which have a bearing upon it, enjoying at the present time the leading surgical practice through the western part of the county. Socially he is a Pythian Knight. Both he and his wife belong to the Congregational Church, and are active in the various departments of its work.



AARON B. PRATT, a representative and venerable pioneer of Ionia County, residing on section 25, Keene Township, is a native of Erie County, N. Y., where he was born June 16, 1813. He is a son of Jacob and Rachel (Anderson) Pratt, both natives of New York State. The Pratt family originated from three brothers who emigrated from England to America at an early day. The maternal grandfather, William Anderson, was a Revolutionary hero and the father of our subject was a soldier in the War of 1812. He and his good wife were the parents of a large family, of whom the following survive: Aaron B.: Elijah, in Ionia Township, this county; Matthew, in Carrolton, Mich.; John in California; and Mary, Mrs. Saxton, a widow, living in Owosso, Mich. The parents were early settlers in Erie County, N. Y., having made their home there when it was practically a wilderness. No opportunities for a higher education were available and the children received their education from the primitive schools in that county.

The subject of this sketch emigrated to Oakland County, Mich., in 1837, and resided there until the year 1840. There he was married on Christmas

Day, 1839, when he took to wife Pluma Fox, who was born March 28, 1820. She is a daughter of Truman and Lydia (Morton) Fox, both natives of New York State. Her father belonged to a family of Scotch descent and her paternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. Her parents had a large family of children, two only of whom are now living: Dorus M., living in Des Moines, Iowa, and Mrs. Pratt. In 1825 Mrs. Pratt when a little girl emigrated with her parents to Oakland County, Mich., and was there reared to maturity and there met and married the subject of this notice. Her parents were among the early settlers in Oakland County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pratt have been born ten children, seven of whom are living, viz: Amanda, Mrs. James L. Manning, of Kalkaskia, Mich.; Walter E., residing in South Dakota; Frank, a resident of Oklahoma; Dora, wife of Robert McDermott, at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; Truman, in Keene Township, this county; May, wife of Wilber Curtis, in Easton Township; and George C., who resides at home.

In the spring of 1840 Mr. and Mrs. Pratt emigrated to Ionia County and settled in what is now Ionia Township. Here they made their home for over a quarter of a century. Our subject and his brother Elijah built the first gristmill in Ionia Township on a stream called Libhart Creek. Together these two young men operated this mill for several years when Aaron bought out his brother's interest and ran the mill for a long while himself. The father was a carpenter and Aaron had in his early years learned the trade of a millwright, which he followed for a number of years in connection with operating his own mill.

In 1866 Mr. Pratt removed to Saranac, Mich., where he followed milling and farming in connection for several years. He came to Keene Township in the fall of 1872 and settled on section 25, where he has lived from that day to this. His fine residence was erected by him in 1876. His beautiful farm of seventy-three acres of well-improved and productive land attest to his industry and good management. He is a self-made man in the truest sense of the word and all that he has is the result of the unaided efforts of himself and his

devoted wife, who has been his wise counselor and ready helper for over half a century. On Christmas Day, 1889, they celebrated their golden wedding, and they are now in a green old age, enjoying to the full the affection of their children and the respect of the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Pratt are identified with the Disciples Church, in the communion of which they have lived earnest and devoted Christian lives. He is a Democrat in politics and a public-spirited citizen. This volume would truly be incomplete without a biographical notice of this honored and venerable pioneer, for he is one of the old landmarks of Ionia County, and vividly can he relate many a stirring and interesting event of the early days. He is universally esteemed for his upright character and integrity.



EMORY F. STRONG. The publishers of this ALBUM would fail in their purpose of presenting the records of the lives of the best known and most useful citizens of Ionia County were the account of the labors of Mr. Strong to be omitted from its pages. He is one of the county's native-born citizens and is the representative of a family that was first known here early in the 40s, when much pioneer work was to be done before the land was fitted for the occupancy of prosperous communities. From his parents he has inherited the sturdy nature characteristic of those who were willing to brave danger and privation in order to open a way for others who were less enterprising, cheerful and courageous. In his own person Mr. Strong has been useful as a private citizen, a servant of the public, and a member of that class to which all owe the necessities of life.

Noble D. Strong, father of our subject, was born in New York, and upon coming to this State settled in the northern part of Keene Township, Ionia County. He was one of the first to locate in that section and was a potent factor in its development. He lived to see the country well

cultivated and populous, and died in Lowell February 21, 1889. His wife, whose maiden name was Rozilla M. Potter, is a native of New York and is now living in Keene Township, and has passed the age of three-score. The parental family consisted of six sons and daughters, and five are now living. The eldest is the subject of this biographical notice. The others are: Ettie, wife of H. Milton Trask, Superintendent of the Manistee Furniture Manufacturing Company; Ella A., wife of F. D. M. Davis, Prosecuting Attorney of Ionia County; Alva R., wife of Le Roy C. Hunter, whose home is in Saranac; and Carrie A., wife of Edward C. Trask, of Keene Township.

The gentleman of whom we write was born September 1, 1845, and spent his boyhood in his native county. He then accompanied his parents to Cass County, where the family sojourned four years, then, returning to Ionia County, established their home on section 19, Easton Township. Our subject was able to take part in the work necessary to bring the new farm under good improvement, and he also cleared and developed his own farm a few years later. His education prior to the age of fifteen was received in the district schools, and he then entered Kalamazoo College. On account of sickness he was obliged to leave that institution when he had spent but a short time in the enjoyment of its advantages. For a time he studied in a select school at Ionia and he also took a course of study in the Detroit Business College. Although he was not able to complete the full college course, he gained more than an average amount of knowledge for the period and place in which his youth was passed.

The wedding day of Mr. Strong and Miss Polly L. Welch was March 6, 1867. The bride, a daughter of Simon and Nancy (Sprague) Welch, was born in Ionia County November 23, 1844. Her parents were born in New York and her father will be remembered by many of our readers as one of the pioneers and a prominent saw-mill man. He came West in the '30s, and after he had been in Ionia County for some time settled on what is known as the "Pike Farm," in Easton Township. Thence he removed to what is called the "Welch Farm," which was one of the first opened up for

cultivation in that district. It is said that Mr. Welch cleared more land and helped to lay out and make more roads than other man in the county. He came hither a poor lad and when he died, in 1862, his estate was estimated at \$50,000. His widow, who is now more than three-score and ten years old, is living in Ionia.

The farm of Mr. Strong consists of one hundred and twenty acres on section 1, Easton Township, developed by himself from the woods and now under good cultivation. He has a complete line of farm buildings and a pleasant residence, in which his wife presides with grace, and which is surrounded with evidences of culture and refinement. The children who form a happy home circle here are: Frank N., Cassie B., Bessie E., Mary B. and Myrtie G. Hospitality is extended with a lavish hand by Mr. and Mrs. Strong, and they and their family enjoy the society of a pleasant circle of acquaintances. Mr. Strong is raising some fine Jersey cattle and some Chester-white hogs, and is also engaged in the milk business, selling the products of his dairy in the city of Ionia.

Mr. Strong has been called upon to fill various positions of trust and has acquitted himself well in each and all. He was Township Supervisor three years, Township Clerk nearly three terms, and School Inspector four years. He possesses good business ability, is courteous and entertaining, and commands the esteem and confidence of his acquaintances. Politically he is a Republican. Mrs. Strong is connected with the Ladies' Aid Society of Ionia.



NOAH BISHOP, a representative pioneer of Ionia County, Mich., residing on section 8, Easton Township, was born August 15, 1822, in Western New York. He is a son of Luther and Harriet (Wheelock) Bishop. His father is a native of Massachusetts and his mother of Rhode Island. Both his grandfathers were Revolutionary heroes, and his grandfather Bishop was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and saw the first shot fired, and was also present when the last fighting of the war was done. Of his father's family seven children

survive: Marcia, Mrs. Taylor, a widow; Maria, wife of Granville Madison; Sylvia, wife of William Booker; Noah; Devilo; Eleanor, wife of Charles Reynolds; and Lucretia, Mrs. Milton Taylor.

The subject of this sketch remained at home until he was fourteen years of age, when he came to Oakland County, Mich., and worked out by the month on a farm, receiving about \$8 per month and his board. In the fall of 1842 he came to Ionia County, where he worked in the pine lumbering woods for a number of years, receiving about \$25 per month with his board.

The excellent lady who presides over the home of our subject became Mrs. Bishop May 18, 1845. She is Ellen, daughter of Charles and Anna (Gillman) Madison, and was born in New Hampshire, July 20, 1830. To her parents had been granted ten children, of whom the following are now living: Nancy, Mrs. Jackson, a widow; James G., Granville, Charles, Frank and Mrs. Bishop. When she was only two years old the Madison family emigrated to Oakland County, Mich., and about a year later Mr. Madison died, and about six years later the mother was called away from this young family, and this little girl was left a double orphan at a tender age. She received the rudiments of her education in the log schoolhouses of New York and Michigan.

In 1848 Mr. Bishop settled on the farm where Robert McKendry now resides, in the western portion of Easton Township. Here he bought eighty acres from the Government, for which he paid at the rate of \$1.25 per acre. He subsequently got forty acres more for which he paid the same price. He built a log cabin in the woods before there were any roads to its site. For a number of years he lived in this house and developed the farm from the woods to a well-cultivated state. In the spring of 1884 he settled on his present farm on section 8, Easton Township. He owns one hundred and forty-one acres of land, sixty of which comprises his home farm. On this he has a fine brick residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Bishop are counted among the old pioneer corner stones of Ionia County, and they have seen many of the hardships to which pioneer



Matthew H. Fox

life is subjected. They are both identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has served as a Steward for some years. They are now in their prime, enjoying the fruits of a life well spent, and doing all in their power to help those who are younger and less prosperous. Their fine brick residence is a favorite resort among all the neighbors. He is a Democrat in politics, and in local matters favors all movements for the elevation of social conditions.

Mr. Bishop's army experience began September 9, 1861, when he enlisted in Company E, First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. This regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and Ohio, and later to the Army of the Tennessee. They were engaged in bridge building and repairing. He received his honorable discharge December 29, 1864, and returned to Ionia County where he has resided ever since, enjoying the esteem and confidence of all who know him.



MATTHEW H. FOX. Since 1866 this gentleman has been numbered among the residents of Muir, Ionia County, and for some years after that date he was prominently connected with business affairs in the lumber regions of the State. Since 1873 he has been classed among the retired men of the place, having a competence which enables him to supply every reasonable desire and having reached an age when ease is pleasant. He is a native of Columbia, Herkimer County, N. Y., and received his education in the schools of the county. He grew to maturity on the parental acres and became thoroughly conversant with the details of agricultural life and the conduct of all business affairs connected therewith.

After his marriage Mr. Fox bought the homestead and there continued to make his home until 1855, when he removed to Cattaraugus County, and again engaged in farming. After eleven years of residence there he came to this State and made his present location. He has two town lots where numerous shade and fruit trees lend beauty to the scene and make an attractive background for his

pleasant residence. Upon coming here Mr. Fox bought a tract of pine land in Montcalm County, and building a steam sawmill at Muir he rafted his logs down Fish Creek and Maple River to the mill. He furnished employment for a number of men and did a good business as long as he continued in active life.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Frederick Fox, a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., and a man of considerable prominence, as well as the owner of a large estate. His occupation was farming. He was a Revolutionary soldier and was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. His son James, father of our subject, was born in the old stone fort of Herkimer, March 9, 1784. He married Dolly Herkimer, who was born there December 26, 1788, she too belonging to a well-known family. James Fox fought during the War of 1812, holding the rank of Lieutenant and then of Captain. He and his wife belonged to Dominie Spinner's Church at Ft. Herkimer and he was a Deacon in the same. He died February 22, 1854, and his widow in 1866. Their family consisted of six children, the only survivors being Matthew H., of whom we write, and John A., a resident of Allegany County, N. Y.

In 1842 our subject was married to Miss Eliza C. Edick, a native of the same county as himself, whose natal day was July 13, 1824, while he was born April 23, 1817. Mrs. Fox is a daughter of John and Christina (Vandusen) Edick, who were also born in Herkimer County and whose ancestors came from Germany and Holland. Mrs. Edick died in 1826 and Mr. Edick was killed by falling from a scaffold, which broke while he was assisting in raising a church steeple. The Edick family comprised four children, two now living—Cornelius and Mrs. Fox. Their parents were members of the Dutch Reformed Church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fox three children have been born, but two only are living. These are Christina E., widow of Justin Smith, and Ella V., wife of J. E. Just. Mrs. Smith lost her husband in 1890; she has four sons—Justin M., George H., Benjamin J. and Clark S. Mrs. Just has one daughter—Nellie. Mr. Fox, although not actively engaged in business, is still one of the most prominent men in

the village of Muir. He is a public-spirited and intelligent man, whose interest in the general welfare is manifested in many ways. He votes the Republican ticket and supports the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member in high standing.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Fox appears in connection with this biographical notice.



WILLIAM NOLTY. The home of this enterprising farmer is on section 3, Ionia Township and county, on a tract of land consisting of one hundred and forty fertile acres. All but twenty acres of this tract is under the plow or devoted to the convenience of the family in orchards, gardens and barn-yards. Large crops of good grain are raised and stock of standard breeds is also placed upon the market from this estate. Excellent buildings have been put up by the present occupants of the land, and their good judgment has been further shown in the setting out of large orchards and in the neatness which characterizes the place. Mr. Nolty makes his visits to town behind a good roadster, and his draught-horses are kept in equally good condition.

Grandfather Nolty, whose given name was John, was born in Germany, whence he came to America when quite young. During the Revolution he laid aside the implements of a farmer to join the other Colonists in defense of their liberties. A son who bore his own name and followed his own occupation, is the direct progenitor of our subject. This second John Nolty was born in Pennsylvania and in Canada married Anna Wilkins, whose father had fought in the Canadian forces during the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Nolty lived in Canada until 1862, then came to this State and made a permanent settlement in Ionia County. After residing in the township of the same name some years, they removed to the county seat, where the husband died in 1876, at the age of four-score years. The widow is now seventy-four years old. Their family comprised ten children and seven survive.

The gentleman whose name introduces these par-

agraphs is a Canadian by birth, born in the Province of Ontario, November 23, 1833. His education was limited, confined to what he could obtain at the common schools during a brief period. He has always been a farmer, but his efforts were for his parents' interests until he was twenty-eight years old. He then started out for himself with a capital consisting of a span of horses. He had come to this State with his parents and he worked a farm on shares one season. He then married and settled in Ronald Township, but a year later removed to his present farm, which was then but partly improved. In all that has been done for their mutual interest Mr. Nolty has had the sympathy and aid of his wife, who is an efficient woman and one who is devoted to the good of her family.

The marriage of Mr. Nolty and Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson was solemnized November 4, 1863. The bride was born at German Flats, Herkimer County, N. Y., October 21, 1828. She is one of seven children—four now living—that comprised the family of James and Clarissa (Brown) DeLong. She was thirteen years old when her parents removed to this State and here she completed her education by a year's attendance in Jackson schools. She taught in Ionia County in former years. By her first marriage she had four children, of whom we note the following: James D. Anderson, born October 24, 1847, married Ella Edwards and has one child; Archie, born January 26, 1850, married Julia Dickinson and has two children; Lizzie Ione, now the wife of Frank Faulkner and mother of three children, was born February 26, 1853; Josephine, born July 10, 1857, married Covert Miller. The older son and the daughters have taught school, Mrs. Miller's experience extending over a period of fourteen years. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Nolty is Edgar J., whose natal day was March 21, 1872. He has attended only the district school, but is a good student and he is also an able assistant of his father upon the farm.

The parents of Mrs. Nolty were born in New York and Massachusetts respectively, and the father combined in his veins German, French and Yankee blood. He came to this State in 1835 with Samuel Dexter, and is numbered among the pioneers of Ionia Township. He had a section of land here

and considerable other real estate, the acreage amounting to nine hundred. He died in 1842. He had started a woolen factory and fulling mill, which his widow finished. Mrs. DeLong survived him until 1879.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Nolty belong to the Christian Church at Muir, and Mr. Nolty has been a Deacon of the congregation. Both have taught in the Sunday-school, Mr. Nolty having the Bible class, and he has been Superintendent of the school. Mrs. Nolty's daughter Josephine led the singing. Mr. Nolty was formerly a member of the Grange and now belongs to the Patrons of Industry, in the growth of which he is quite interested. He has been a member of the local School Board about eighteen years and is now its Treasurer. In politics he is a faithful Republican and he is a strong advocate of temperance.



ADDISON R. WILCOX who resides on section 32, Ionia Township, Ionia County, is the only surviving child of Azariah Wilcox, a native of the Green Mountain State. The mother bore the maiden name of Almira Eaton. This couple remained after their marriage in their native State, Vermont, until a short time before the death of the husband which took place in 1831, in Chautauqua County, N. Y., whither they had removed. His widow in the course of time married again and remained in Chautauqua County. She died there in 1874, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years.

Young Addison, who was born November 9, 1830, in Chautauqua County, N. Y., was only fourteen months old when his father's death orphaned him. His mother brought him up and gave to him the best common-school education which was to be obtained. At the age of eighteen years he left home to peddle stoves, which occupation he continued for four years.

At twenty-two years of age he undertook an expedition, which in those days, early in the '50s, was undertaken by few, except the most enterprising and fearless. He went to California, crossing

the plains. The expedition was fitted out at St. Joseph, Mo., and pursued its course to Ft. Leavenworth, then by the south fork of the Platte River to Ft. Kearney, then to Salt Lake City, where they rested for two weeks. They ascended to the head of the Humboldt River, then down Carson Valley to Placerville, then called Hangtown. The party left St. Joseph May 14 and arrived at Placerville September 16, the same year (1852). They saw plenty of Indians on the way but had no trouble with them. Ox-teams were their only beasts of burden.

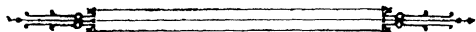
Mr. Wilcox went into the mines for a year and expected to do more in that line but was driven from this kind of work by rheumatism. He went to work on a farm in Santa Clara County, and found the California sunshine more helpful for him than the darkness of the mines. He earned \$100 a month for three years. His return home in 1857 was around by the Isthmus of Panama. After his return home he speculated in horses and cattle for some eight or nine years, and then settled on a farm in his home county. In 1876 he came to Michigan and made his home in Ionia County, where he has since remained.

In 1857 an interesting event took place in the life of our subject which united him with Sarepta, daughter of George and Sallie (White) Sloan, who were pioneers in Chautauqua County, N. Y. She was born in 1832 and was called from earth in 1871, leaving one child, Myrtie S., born August, 1869. Our subject's second marriage took place May 29, 1879. In this event he was joined with Mrs. Robert Treat Kelsèy *nee* Du Bois, a daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Van Voorhess) Du Bois. The celebration of their marriage took place in Albany and Mr. and Mrs. Du Bois resided in Steuben County, N. Y. He was not only a farmer but a miller and a fuller. He served his country in the War of 1812. Mr. Du Bois came to Michigan about 1859, and having lost his wife several years before made his home with his children and died here in 1870, his remains reposing in Balcolm Cemetery.

Mrs. Wilcox was the fourth child of her parents and was born November 4, 1833, in Steuben County, N. Y. The excellent education furnished her by

her parents, fitted her for the profession of a teacher, and previous to her first marriage she taught school for some time. Her marriage in December, 1854, united her with Robert Treat Kelsey, a son of Levi and Asenath (Hoyt) Kelsey, of Herkimer County, N. Y. In 1855 they made a new home in Michigan, purchasing eighty acres of land, twenty-five of which was already chopped and broken up. He finished clearing it and put it all under cultivation. Mr. Kelsey was a Republican and took an active interest in politics. He was also a member of the School Board. He died January 19, 1863. Both children of this marriage have been called from earth.

Mr. Wilcox gives his almost undivided attention to his farm, raising both grain and stock of standard grades. He has always taken an interest in politics and votes the Republican ticket, while his wife's preferences are with the Democracy, and she is strongly interested in temperance movements. Their residence was built some twenty-five years ago and the large barn in 1885.



CHRI**S**TIAN LUZ, proprietor of the Central Meat-market at Edmore, Montcalm County, is the son of Gottlieb Luz, of Wurtemberg, Germany. His grandfather Andreas, was the wealthiest man in the city of Kirchentellensfurth, a large landed proprietor and a prominent and influential man, holding the principal public office in that place. The father of our subject was engaged in farming, and died in the year 1866, at the early age of twenty-five years when this boy was but one year old. The father was a Lutheran. The mother of Christian was Elizabetha (Weber) Luz, and was born in Wurtemberg. Her father, Jacob Weber, was a baker, and kept a general restaurant in Kirchentellensfurth, where the mother still resides.

The subject of this sketch first saw the light January 7, 1865. He remained with his mother, who ran a farm in her native village, and early learned to attend to the business of the family. After awhile he learned the butcher's business, and soon began dealing in cattle, in which he was very suc-

cessful. His family were in independent circumstances and he had every advantage in both business and social ways, but he had a desire to see America, and to find his life-work here. In February, 1889 he left Havre by the steamer "British." He was seven days on the ocean, and came directly to Ann Arbor by way of New York. He worked for four months on a farm, and then came to Lansing, where he was employed in a meat-market up to the fall of 1890, when coming to Edmore he bought the Central meat-market from Taylor & Skarritt, and has since run it successfully. He has a good location, and is doing a fine business, being orderly and systematic in his work, and making the place attractive to customers.

In December, 1890, the subject of this sketch sailed for Germany, to visit his mother and his old home. He had a pleasant trip of fifteen days from New York to Havre on the steamer "Opdom." He spent three months in Germany, combining business and pleasure. In the pursuit of the former he proved his claim to a fortune of \$40,000, and settled up the entire business in the short period of his visit. In the early part of March, 1891, he returned to this country, making a voyage of thirteen days on the steamer "Suafia." He is a very popular man in Edmore, and can confidently look forward to a successful future. He is connected with the Lutheran Church, and is a Democrat in his political preferences.



JOH**N** BIPP**L**EY is one of the owners of well-regulated estates in Ionia County and derives from his property a very satisfactory income. He is located on section 13, Odessa Township, and has there one hundred and eighty acres of cleared land and sixty acres that are still covered with timber. A large and conveniently-arranged farm house presents the homelike appearance attractive to passers-by, and two barns, one of which is the largest in the township, together with other necessary buildings, are there to be seen. The grain and tool-barn is twenty-six feet square, with twelve-foot posts, and the other is

56x80 feet, with a height of eighteen feet. The latter has a basement under the whole extent. Mr. Bippley keeps good stock and raises crops equal to any harvested in this section of the State.

Jacob and Julia (Fole) Bippley were natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to America in 1832. Mr. Bippley had been a farmer in Wurtemberg and after crossing the Atlantic he continued his olden occupation. He located in Medina County, Ohio, and made that his home until his death. He passed away while on a visit to Kentucky in the year 1850. His faithful companion lived until December 6, 1884. Their children were eight in number and six are now living, viz: John, George, Gotlieb, Catherine, Mary, and Christina. The deceased are Fred, who died in Andersonville in 1863 and Christian who died in 1861. The parents were members of the Lutheran Church.

John Bippley was born in Medina County, Ohio, February 18, 1838. He received a limited education in the district school and remained at home until he was fourteen years old, when he worked out by the month and gave his evenings to the service of his widowed mother. In 1855 he came to this State and for about two years worked by the month in Berlin Township, Ionia County. He was economical, and ere long bought forty acres of land on section 10, Odessa Township, which he cleared at odd times when not engaged in chopping, logging and splitting wood for others. He kept on working for wages and giving his spare time to the development of his own property, until he sold the tract in 1878. Prior to that time he had bought eighty acres where he is now living and to this he removed. On his new place there was a clearing of fourteen acres. Here he built a frame house and then began to place the rest of the tract in a condition for planting.

Each year saw the Bippley property better improved, and in course of time it was increased to its present extent. This was not accomplished without passing through trials and hardships, but they were lessened by the sympathy of a good wife and shortened by her counsel and aid. The worthy couple can look back upon many happy days even while their waking hours were devoted to toil, and while they lived in the rude log cabin that was

their earliest home. The furniture in that dwelling was rudely made and included only the most necessary articles, such as chairs, a bedstead, and a table that was in reality a chest. Times were so hard that for two months they had no money with which to mail a letter.

March 12, 1861, Mr. Bippley and Miss Hannah Winningaer were united in marriage. They have three children, sons, named Frank, George and William. Mrs. Bippley is a daughter of George and Margaret (Kleinknecht) Winningaer, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They emigrated to America in 1833 and at once located in Medina County, Ohio, where Mr. Winningaer carried on a farm, as he had done in his native land. His death occurred December 23, 1870; his wife had preceded him to the tomb, dying in August, 1862. They had seven children, but two only are now living—Christian and Hannah—the former making his home in Berlin Township. Of the brothers of Mrs. Bippley, John died in Liverpool, Ohio, in September 1887; George died in New Orleans of cholera in 1848 at the close of the Mexican war in which he was a soldier; and Philip died in Dayton, Ohio, in 1866, from the effects of wounds and exposure during the Rebellion.

Mr. Bippley was formerly a Republican but is now connected with the Democratic party; he is a member of the Patrons of Industry. He has taken part in the official work of Odessa Township, having been Highway Commissioner four, Drainage Commissioner one, District Overseer eight, and School Officer seven years.



ANDREW M. MARTIN, M. D. Few men have in any avocation so excellent an opportunity of making themselves useful to the community and beloved by their fellow citizens, as a good family physician. He it is who receives the confidence of those who are broken in spirit and depressed in circumstances. It is he whose kind words and cheery voice give new courage and purpose when the heart is sad. Our subject, has made himself a position and a

power in Lake Odessa and vicinity, and he is respected and admired by those who have looked to him for help in time of trouble.

The subject of this sketch was born in Akron, Summit County, Ohio, March 7, 1844. He is the son of Andrew and Jane (Mills) Martin. His father was a native of the Empire State and of Irish descent and the mother was born in England, coming to this country with her parents when she was about three years of age. Andrew Martin came to Ionia County, Mich., in 1855, and purchasing a farm of two hundred acres in Otisco Township, proceeded to improve and cultivate it. This occupation was supplemented by carpentering in which trade he was trained and in which he did much efficient service.

The father of our subject was called from earth April 23, 1865. The mother's death took place February 17, 1873. Their four children are Charles M., who resides at Seattle, Wash.; Mary, wife of William Tillotson, who resides on the old homestead in Otisco Township; Andrew M. and Alice E. wife of Amos Benton, who resides at Miner County, Da. Dr. Martin received his early education at the seminary at Akron, Ohio, from which place he came with his parents when a little lad of eleven years. While residing at home on the farm in Otisco Township, he attended the Union School at Cook's Corners and was looking forward to a still higher education when he felt the call of duty to go to the defence of his Nation's flag. He was too young when the war broke out to enlist, but as time went on he felt that he could not tarry, and although he had not reached his majority, he received the consent of his parents to his enlistment and on August 22, 1864, he joined Company F, First Michigan Engineers. In this noble cause he served until the close of the war and was honorably discharged June 6, 1865.

After his return home the young man remained on the farm for about a year and then went Greenville, Montcalm County, and commenced the long deferred studies to which he as a youth looked forward. He took his first year's study with his brother Charles and after attending the Michigan University at Ann Arbor for two years, commenced the practice of medicine at Maple Hill, Montcalm County, Mich. He remained in this locality but a short time and then came to Odessa Township,

locating at Bonanza, half a mile from what is now Lake Odessa. Here he practiced medicine about ten months and from there went to Gratiot County, and located at Elm Hall, where he practiced until the fall of 1872. He then returned to the farm, to care for his mother in her declining health and to attend her through her last illness. During the winter she passed away, and in the spring he settled at Coral, Montcalm County, where he practiced until the fall of 1873. He did not make a permanent location until he had tried several different places in Michigan and Indiana, and until he had passed three years in professional duty in Tallahassee, Fla. But in the fall of 1885, he made his home in Lake Odessa where he is now engaged in a lucrative practice. This new town is growing finely and has now reached a population of about eleven hundred.

Dr. Martin celebrated his marriage with Abbie A. Reed, July 19, 1869. One child has been given to them—Clinton A. who resides with his parents. The Doctor is a Republican by conviction and supports the principles of the Republican party.



BENJAMIN PROBASCO. The life of this gentleman is well worthy the consideration of those who are beginning their career, as it affords lessons of honest, persistent industry and good citizenship that might well be emulated by others. He has been a resident of Ionia County since 1855, and although not so old a settler as some he is yet able to recall days when deer were plenty and he could kill them in his own clearing, and when a more savage animal would sometimes be encountered while committing depredations on the stock. The spring after his arrival here he had an encounter with a bear that was killing hogs near the house, but he did not succeed in capturing bruin.

The subject of this biographical notice is a son of Jacob and Mary (Shay) Probasco, both natives of New Jersey, the one of French and the other of German lineage. The father was a soldier in 1812 and after his death, which occurred at the early

age of forty seven years, his widow received a pension for his services. In 1833 the good couple removed to Ohio, settling in Huron County on a farm that had been occupied by Indians who had gone farther west but eighteen months before. A large orchard had been planted by the savages and other work done which is generally supposed to belong to civilization. While working at the forge, which was quite profitable there, Mr. Probasco carried on his farm, which included two hundred and eighty acres.

Benjamin Probasco was about two years old when his parents removed to Ohio, he having been born in Sussex County, N. J., April 8, 1831. All his schooling was obtained prior to his fifteenth year when, the father being dead, the children were obliged to assist in the general support whenever they could. Our subject worked on the farm and at coopering, and at the age of sixteen years operated the homestead on his own account and was so successful that he obtained the largest yield it had ever given. He had an average of forty-three bushels of wheat per acre for fifteen acres and the work had all been done with oxen. An older brother had lost his life in the Mexican War, and Benjamin bought the land warrant which he had received. This warrant was laid on the land now owned by our subject three years prior to his coming here. He came to Michigan in 1855 and located a tract on section 22, Sebewa Township, Ionia County.

The tract taken by Mr. Probasco was in the woods and he proceeded to clear and improve it, and subsequently sold it for \$3,600. He then bought the Waddell farm of eighty acres, which was well improved and which cost him \$2,200. For sixteen years he divided his time between farming and the cooper's trade, doing light work at the latter in the winter months. As a farmer he has been progressive, adopting the most approved methods and always keeping good stock. He has always had good horses, and in recent years has paid considerable attention to sheep raising and gathered a flock of high grade. He is now giving the farming mostly into the hands of his son Eugene.

November 24, 1857, Mr. Probasco was married

to Miss Deborah Showerman, who shared his fortunes but a few short years, dying in 1860. She left two sons—Levant and Eugene. The former married Leonore Badger and was engaged in farming until his decease. Eugene, who married Emma Casswell, lives near his father. After having lived a widower until 1863 Mr. Probasco was married to Luryette Adelia Brown and to them were born two children: Frances, who married Henry Snyder, a tradesman; and Irving Adelbert. Again Mr. Probasco was bereft of a companion, his wife dying January 20, 1866. His present companion, formerly Mary Jane Quackenbos, became his wife December 6, 1868. Of this union there has been born one daughter—Eva Mary, wife of Henry Snyder.

Mr. Probasco has been a great worker, and now at the age of three-score years, besides doing the chores, he has cut over fifty cords of wood and split it, all with the ax. In politics he has been quite interested, always keeping posted regarding the issues of the day, and he votes the Democratic ticket. Interested in the progress of mankind, he has manifested a progressive spirit in the consideration of school affairs and other public interests. He has been a member of the Patrons of Industry and is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



HORACE F. MINER. The genial landlord of Hotel Miner, at Lake Odessa, is widely known in Ionia County and in the territory lying south of the county. He was born in Monroe County, N. Y., August 5, 1832, and is a son of Linus K. and Sophia (Bradley) Miner. His father was born in Springfield, Mass., and his mother in Connecticut. For some years prior to 1848 Linus K. Miner carried on farming in New York and he then removed with his family to Shiawassee County, this State, where he took up seven hundred and sixty acres of wild land. He had visited this section in 1836 and located the tract, making his journey on horseback through Canada in company with two friends.

Prior to bringing his family hither Linus K.

Miner had put up a log house in which they placed their household goods and which was the residence of the parents during the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Miner passed away in January, 1860, and Linus K. Miner died in the spring of 1863. He had placed one hundred and twenty acres of his large estate under improvement. Both father and mother belonged to the Presbyterian Church and endeavored to live in accordance with religious teachings. They had seven children, of whom four are now living and our subject second in point of age. Martin V., now lives in Brown County, S. Dak.; Robert B. in Berlin Township, Ionia County, and Ellen is the wife of William H. Smith, of Detroit.

Mr. Miner of this notice was reared on a farm, and until he was sixteen years old lived in his native county. He received his early education in the district school and then attended the academy at Riga one year. He came West with his parents and as an assistant in clearing the farm, experienced the trials and hardships of a pioneer. When twenty years old he returned to his native place and spent the summer in study in the academy and the winter in teaching. He continued this three years, then returned to his home in this State and staid with his parents about two years.

In the fall of 1854 Mr. Miner visited Ionia County, and purchased forty acres of land on section 16, and later he added forty acres in Odessa Township. For a score of years following he taught winter schools in this vicinity, and spent the summer months at various occupations by which he could make an honorable living and secure the best payment for the time expended. Whatever leisure he had was given to clearing and improving his land. Long before the twenty years had passed he took possession of his property, and while continuing his pedagogical work in the winter he gave the summer months to farming.

In the spring of 1873 Mr. Miner sold his farm and removed to Saranac where he remained three years. He then removed to what was known as Bonanza in Odessa Township, and opened up a stock of general merchandise, remaining there until the village of Lake Odessa was founded. The new town was started on a railroad which was then be-

ing built, and Bonanza became extinct, its residents moving to Lake Odessa. Mr. Miner followed the tide, took his store building to the new town and in this place has done business ever since, the store now being managed by his son. There was no hotel in Bonanza and no place for a weary traveler to stop, and Mr. Miner, having one spare bed was called upon by the traveling men and as they began to come thicker and faster he put up more beds and finally built an addition to his store-room for the purpose of running a sort of an hotel. When he removed to Lake Odessa he perceived the necessity of making arrangements for the accommodation of travelers, as he believed the village would soon be a thriving city.

Well aware of the advantages of the surrounding country and the enterprise of the people, Mr. Miner determined to put up an hotel. He hauled one hundred thousand brick from Saranac, a distance of fourteen miles, and within eight months had a three-story building, 34x72 feet, which would be a credit to any town. It is furnished well and Mr. Miner himself sees that everyone who stops there is well cared for and strangers are at once made to feel at home. It is well known that a good hotel is necessary to the prosperity of the town and that the landlord is a potent factor in building up trade of various kinds. Much credit is therefore due Mr. Miner for what he has done and is doing toward making Lake Odessa an important commercial center.

June 14, 1860, was the date of the ceremony that united the fortunes of Mr. Miner and Miss Martha J. Miller. They have had two children, a daughter and a son. The latter—Otis Miner, has charge of the store established by his father and now carried on under the style of Miner & Son. In February, 1890, he was united in marriage with Miss Dora Haight. A sad catastrophe bereft Mr. and Mrs. Miner of their daughter Nellie, who was drowned in the Grand River at Saranac. Mr. Miner is always ready to credit his wife with a large share in his success, declaring that in her prudent management he owes worldly prosperity as well as the comfort of his home life.

The greatest amount of tax paid by anyone in Lake Odessa is credited to Mr. Miner and he is



Very Truly Yours
J. H. Kidd.

said to have done more than any other man to advance the interests of the town. He is always ready to give and to do in that direction. He has been Notary Public for twelve years and is now serving under his fourth commission. His first Presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont and he is still a staunch Republican. Socially he belongs to the Masonic Lodge.



GEN. JAMES H. KIDD. The name of this gentleman is inscribed on the roll of Fame among the gallant commanders under whose leadership the rank and file of the Union army marched to victory. He entered the service when in the dawn of manhood, and his knowledge of military tactics secured for him the rank of Captain when beginning his active career as a soldier. Valor in times of danger, cheerful obedience to his superior officers, and qualities that win the support of inferiors raised him to a much higher rank some months before the war closed. He was born in Ionia and this city has been his home for years.

Among the pioneers of Ionia County James M. and Jane (Stevenson) Kidd, parents of our subject, lived and labored, enduring the toils and privations that were shared in common by the early settlers, and rejoicing with their associates in every accession to the neighborhood and every appearance of additional prosperity. Mr. Kidd was born in Orange County, N. Y., November 13, 1813, and accompanied his parents to this State in 1830. He first located near Pontiac, remained there six years, then removed to Ionia and engaged in the manufacture of fanning mills. In 1845 he bought a sawmill and a tract of pine land on Flat River at the point now called Kiddville. In 1881 his earnings were swept away by fire and two years later he returned to Ionia and re-engaged in his former business. Several times he was elected Mayor of the city, and he is still living (1891), honored by all who know him. His wife was a native of Windsor, England.

The natal day of Gen. Kidd was February 14,

1840. His early education was supplemented by two years' attendance at the State Normal School, and he was graduated from the Ypsilanti Union Seminary. For two years he was a student in the classical course in the university at Ann Arbor. The breaking out of the Civil War changed his plans and he threw aside his books to enter the army. During his time in the university he had become so skilled in military tactics as to entitle him to an officer's rank in what was known as Tappan Guards, and attract the notice of military authorities of the State. He was therefore placed in command of Company E, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, after being instrumental in raising the company.

After a winter in Washington Capt. Kidd was ordered to the field and was actively engaged in the Gettysburg campaign, taking part in every engagement. At Falling Waters, the last of sixteen battles fought in fifteen days, he was severely wounded. After that engagement he was promoted to the rank of Major, to date from May, 1863. He rejoined his regiment in October and the following May was commissioned Colonel. In addition to the battles mentioned Col. Kidd participated in Kilpatrick's raid, the terrible scenes of the Wilderness, Sheridan's raid, the battles at Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor and others, and he also bore a conspicuous part in the operations in the Shenandoah Valley under Gen. Sheridan. At the battle of Winchester, September 19, 1864, he was again wounded; and at the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19, he had his horse shot under him.

On the promotion of Gen. Custer, Col. Kidd succeeded him in command of the Michigan Brigade, which he commanded in the battle of Cedar Creek. After the surrender of Gen. Lee, Col. Kidd's command was ordered West to take part in the Indian War, and having reached Leavenworth by river and rail, it marched to the Powder River in Wyoming. Col. Kidd was in command of the left column of the Powder Indian Expedition under Gen. P. E. Conner and established a post and built a fort on Powder River. This was successfully accomplished and the flag of the Sixth Michigan Cavalry waved over what was then named Ft. Conner, subsequently Ft. Reno. After the close

of the war Col. Kidd was brevetted Brigadier General, "for meritorious conduct in the Shenandoah Valley."

After the expiration of his term of service, in the fall of 1865, Gen. Kidd returned to Ionia and engaged in manufacturing with his father. In 1867 he was appointed Register of the United States land office at Ionia, which position he held eight years. In 1876 he became interested in State military matters and entered the State service as Captain of Company G, Second Regiment Michigan State troops. Upon the organization of the same into a brigade in 1881 he was appointed on the staff of Gen. Withington as Brigade Quartermaster with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1882 he received the appointment of Brigade Inspector, a position which, on the retirement of Gen. Withington he retained on the staff of Gen. I. C. Smith, serving in that capacity until January 1, 1885. He was then appointed by Gov. Alger, Brigadier General and Inspector General of the Michigan State troops, a position which he held during the administration of that Governor. He then retired after a continuous service of ten years.

In May, 1890, Gen. Kidd was commissioned Postmaster by President Harrison. He is proprietor of the Ionia "*Sentinel*," which he purchased in 1879. As may well be supposed he takes an active interest in the Grand Army of the Republic. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, has been Eminent Commander of the Ionia Commandery and Junior Warden of the Grand Commandery of the State. Politically he is a Republican, stanch and true. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The wife who came to him as a Christmas gift in 1871, is well known in Ionia, this having been her home prior to her marriage. She is an educated, cultured lady whose maiden name was Florence S. McConnell. She is the daughter of the late Frederick McConnell and the granddaughter of Judge Edward Mundy, the first Lieutenant-Governor of Michigan and for a time Acting Governor. He was also Justice of the Supreme Court of Michigan from 1848 until 1851, was Attorney-General, and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1835. Gen. Kidd and his wife have

one son, Fred McConnell Kidd, who was born in 1881.

Gen. Kidd has written many articles which have been published concerning the military events of the Rebellion, the most notable of which was the address delivered at the dedication of the monument to the Michigan Cavalry Brigade at Gettysburg, June 12, 1889. This address has been pronounced by high military authority as the best contribution to that portion of the literature of the war.

In connection with this biographical notice we present a lithographic portrait of Gen. Kidd.



ALLEXANDER SPRAGUE. Were there no other reasons for esteeming Mr. Sprague, his fellow citizens of Ionia County would find one in the fact that he gave several of the best years of his life to bearing arms for his country. He has an honorable war record gained through many weary months of exposure to hardship and danger, and he is an influential member of the Grand Army Post. His occupation in life is farming and the seat of his labors is a well-developed tract of land on section 31, Easton Township. He is considered one of the representative agriculturalists of the township and his farm, although only moderate in extent, comprising eighty-seven acres, is carefully and intelligently handled and produces crops second in quality and quantity to none raised in the vicinity.

The Sprague family was first heard of in America in the New England States several generations since, but Alexander Sprague, father of our subject, was born in New York. That State was also the birthplace of Maria Gall, the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, whom Mr. Sprague won for his wife. To the good couple there were born six children, those who now survive being Henry, a resident of Berlin Township; Eliza, wife of Andrew Jepson, living in Campbell Township; and Alexander. The last named was born in Monroe County, N. Y., October 15, 1832, and remained in his native State until he was about fifteen years

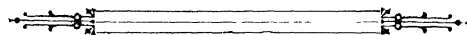
old. He then, with his mother and other members of the family, came to this State to join the husband and father, who had been making preparations to receive them in Livingston County. After the family had lived there about a year and a half a change was made to Ionia County and the farm now occupied by our subject became their home. Here the parents died after having done much pioneer work, the farm being undeveloped and heavily timbered when they took possession of it.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs grew to manhood amid the scenes of pioneer life, aiding his father in preparing the Michigan land for cultivation, and taking advantage of the opportunities that were afforded him to gain knowledge. He worked in this State until after the Civil War began, then entered the service as a private in Company M, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. He signed the muster roll September 22, 1862, and soon became an integral part in the Army of the Potomac, in which he served under Gens. Custer, Merritt, Sheridan, Kilpatrick and Grant, at various times and took part in the battles of Gettysburg, Falling Waters, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Darvillian Station, Tallas Tavern and Appomattox. He had many narrow escapes from death and in the thickest of the fight his bravery and valor were often tried and not found wanting. After the surrender of Gen. Lee at which he was present, he took part in the Grand Review at Washington and then spent several months in Wyoming, where he and others were sent to quell the Indian disturbances. He was honorably discharged at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., November 24, 1865.

When he was released from the army Mr. Sprague returned to Ionia County and resumed the peaceful occupation of a farmer. He was married October 1, 1868, to Sarah Cooper, daughter of Ashbel and Lucy (Waterbury) Cooper. The bride was born in Jackson County, October 13, 1841, and was left fatherless when quite small. Her father was an early settler in that county and was a native of New England. Her mother was born in New York, but reared in Canada, whither her parents went when she was quite young. The family of which Mrs. Sprague was a member consisted of four children and the other survivors are Solomon W.,

who lives in Campbell Township and Lucinda, wife of A. W. Green, living in Boston Township, this county.

In Hiel P. Clark Post, No. 153, G. A. R., at Saranac, comrade Sprague has been Senior and Junior Vice-Commander and Assistant Quartermaster. His estimable wife is a member of the Ladies Relief Corps, auxiliary to that Post. Both take an active part in the affairs that are instituted for the benefit of the society in which they move, and are numbered among the most honorable and prominent people of their neighborhood. Their lives have been well spent and they are enjoying the fruits of their industry, and association with those by whom they are respected. Mr. Sprague is a staunch Republican.



WILLIAM P. SMITH, who has a fine farm on section 9, Ronald Township, Ionia County, was born in Fairfield Township, near Adrian, Lenawee County, this State, February 10, 1846. The father, Americus Smith, was married in Adrian, Mich., October 23, 1831, to Martha Beal, a native of New York. About 1845 they removed to Ionia County, and thence to Palo, Ronald Township, where they resided until the death of the father in 1879. The mother having now passed four-score and three years, makes her home with her son, our subject. Americus Smith and his wife were the parents of seven children, five of whom grew to maturity, namely; Elmina, Mrs. Town; William P.; Edwin, a State Senator in Idaho; Sylvester and Emiline, the latter two now deceased.

The subject of this sketch was only a little lad of nine years when he came to Ionia County with his parents. His received his first education in the district school of Ronald Township. He then attended school at Adrian, and when only sixteen years of age began work for himself. His father's health was poor and he had the care of him and the charge of the family from that time on. His marriage December 28, 1880, united him with Mary E. Eldredge, a native of Lapeer, Mich.

Two years after their marriage they took up their residence upon their present farm. One hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land form the home place and sixty acres are upon section 10, the same township. His handsome residence was erected at the expense of \$1,500. He has a well arranged and commodious barn and all the improvements necessary to make up a first-class farm. In politics he is a Republican. He was at one time Justice of the Peace, also Township Collector; he has been Superintendent of Schools and member of the Board of Review. He is a useful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in that organization fills the responsible positions of Trustee and Steward. He is highly esteemed and more than ordinarily popular in his neighborhood and one who is relied upon to help forward all good works.



JAMES SLEMONS, Chief Engineer of the Water Works at Edmore, Montcalm County, is the oldest resident settler in the town. He is a practical experienced engineer, having had charge of important works in various parts of country. He spent the years 1856-57 in Omaha, Neb., being attached to the Government survey, and was department foreman of the engineering corps to lay out the present city of South Omaha. He is well-informed and converses readily on every topic, but mechanical engineering is his specialty, and in this work he is very enthusiastic. His wife is an excellent business woman, being engaged in the dry-goods business under the firm name of M. E. Slemons.

William Slemons, the father of our subject, was born in Ireland thirty miles from Belfast, and is of Scottish descent, his grandfather a weaver by trade, having come from Scotland. When still quite young William Slemons came to America, and located in Philadelphia and pursued weaving for four years. He then removed to Mercer County, Pa., and buying an improved farm engaged in stock raising, making Pittsburg his market. He made a good success in this line, carrying on three farms and putting much money in stock. He was an en-

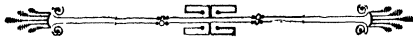
thusiastic breeder of horses. Later he removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he died in 1874. He was a stanch Republican, and a true blue Presbyterian of the old-fashioned Scotch kind. The mother's ancestry was much the same as the father's. She was Margaret Calderwood by name, born February 3, 1803, near Belfast in Ireland. Her ancestors were banished from Scotland during the persecution of Mary, Queen of Scots, and came over from Scotland to Ireland, shipped as produce in barrels. The mother of our subject came to this country during the War of 1812. The ship in which she sailed was captured on the seas, and the able bodied seamen were pressed into the service of the British, who brought their passengers to Philadelphia. She was then only eight years old, and resided in Philadelphia for fourteen years. She was married in Mercer County, Pa., and now resides in the old home in Ohio.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of five children. He was born near New Castle, Mercer County, Pa., April 28, 1837. Although early put at farm work, his natural love for mechanics led him to undertake building, and he erected a house on the homestead. He quickly absorbed what education he could gain at the district schools and remained at home until 1862, when he located at Youngstown and engaged in the manufacture of lumber, and the management of a planing mill and lumber yard. He also acted as contractor and builder, and turned his hand to every kind of work which came to him. For two years he represented the firm of Marsteller, Wallace & Co., in Genesee County, Mich., in the manufacture of lumber and shingles. In this firm he was a partner from 1864 until 1867. They were then burned out, and he lost all that he had put in the business. After this he went to Cedar Springs and undertook the manufacture and wholesaling of lumber. He was the first inspector for the general public and engaged in buying lands and shipping lumber. He made considerable money in these transactions, but lost it in 1873. After this he followed the business of lumber inspector until 1878, when he located here permanently.

Mr. Slemons has engaged here in contracting and building, and has bought lots and sold them again

after improving and placing buildings upon them. He has also handled lumber, and has inspected the building of public works, especially the water works, the opera house, the fire tower, and the schoolhouse. He has been Chief Engineer of the water works for three years, and they are in every way a credit to his ability and honesty.

The marriage of Mr. Slemons in 1874, took place in Flint. He was then united with Mary E. Countryman, a daughter of Nehemiah Countryman, a retired farmer of South Lyons, Mich. This gentleman is now managing the elevator at Swartz Creek. Mrs. Slemons is well educated, and taught school for some months before her marriage. In addition to the cares of her household and the education of her two children, Clyde and Elmer, she has found time for outside work, and has carried on since 1887 a flourishing business in dry-goods, clothing, and gents furnishing goods. Mr. Slemons is a member of the School Board, and has been for seven years Justice of the Peace. When in Ohio he belonged to the Union League, and is a prominent Republican. He is always a member of the County Central Committee, and often a delegate to the county and State conventions. His wife is an earnest and very useful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



ZEPHANIAH GATES, an old settler of Home Township, Montcalm County, is a man who reflects credit in every way upon the community in which he resides. He is the son of Harry P., the son of Zephaniah, Sr., who was born in Rhode Island and was one of the early settlers first in Cattaraugus, later in Chautauqua County, N. Y., and after that in Erie County, Pa. Later in life he emigrated to Indiana and died there in Delaware County. He was of English parentage.

The father of our subject, after his marriage in Erie County, Pa., removed by team to Indiana in 1844. In 1845 with his wife and three children he removed by ox-team and wagon to Michigan. One cow followed in their wake and their purse contained \$1.50. The journey took fifteen days and the total ex-

penses were seventy-five cents. They reached Ionia County, Mich., and bought fifty acres on the south side of the Grand River, giving in exchange for the land his ox-team and wagon. He built a log house and the happy family contentedly began the pioneer life. Mr. Gates improved this land and added to it until at one time he had one hundred and sixty acres, but has given most of this away to his sons. He still resides on the old homestead and is an old-time Democrat and Deacon in the Baptist Church. His good wife who has aided him in this pioneer life was Sallie Stephens, daughter of Rozell Stephens of Niagara County, N. Y. This family traces its lineage back to the blue blood of Plymouth Rock.

The parents of our subject had four children; Lydia (Mrs. Disbrow), Zephaniah, Clinton and David. Zephaniah was born May 22, 1838, in Erie County, Pa. Here his early childhood was passed until the family emigrated to Indiana and later to Ionia County, Mich. He was only seven years old when he first entered the Wolverine State. As he grew up he engaged in true pioneer life, helped to clear the land and began the manufacture of black salts. His schooling was obtained in the cobblestone school-house. When he reached his majority he came into possession of forty acres of timber land. In 1873 he traded this land, now finely improved, for a house and lot in Westville, and eighty acres in Home Township, where he now resides. For three years he resided in Westville and engaged in teaming. In the pursuit of this work he oftentimes was stuck in the muddy roads and heroically carried the greater part of his load, flour, shingles or whatever it might be, uphill to some dry spot where he might reload and start again.

In 1877 our subject located on his present place which he cleared and improved and added to it until he had two hundred acres. Of this he now retains only forty acres, having given away the remainder to his sons. He has a valuable location, good orchards and fine springs, raises a good grade of stock and makes a specialty of potato and hay raising. He also deals in agricultural implements.

In 1856 Mr. Gates celebrated Christmas day at Saranac by his marriage with Laura, daughter of Joseph Granger, of New York. Mr. Granger

brought his family to Michigan in 1854, and made his home on the banks of the Grand River, where he worked a farm till his death in 1871 at the age of sixty years. Mrs. Granger was Esther Lane, whose grandfather was notable in New York State as a weaver of high grade goods. Mrs. Gates was educated in Owego, N. Y., where she was born July 20, 1838. She came to Michigan in 1854.

Five children have blessed the home of Mr. Gates: Albro, a farmer in Home Township, who has taught school for fourteen years; Herbert C., a farmer in Home Township; Flora, the wife of Edgar Arnold, a farmer in Ionia County; Harry P., on the home farm; and Ella, who is also at home. The subject of this sketch has been Commissioner of Highways and has been for years Moderator of the School Board. He is an active and prominent member of the Independent Order of Good Templars at Edmore. He has been a member of the Baptist Church for over thirty years and has been Deacon of the church at Edmore since its organization. He is one of its most efficient members, having been especially active in helping to erect its house of worship. He was Superintendent of the First Union Sunday-school opened at Edmore, and continued in that work for seven years, since which he has been Superintendent of the Baptist School and has the Banner Class at Edmore. He organized the Sunday school at Wyman and has been its Superintendent. His wife is a member of the Ladies Aid Society and active in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. They are both warm hearted and hospitable and their good qualities are cordially appreciated by their neighbors.



JOHAN N. HODGE. This prominent agriculturist and leading citizen of Easton Township, Ionia County, has an extended circle of acquaintances, as he has been living on section 28, since the spring of 1852. He settled practically in the woods in a log cabin, 16x24 feet, that sheltered him and his for a number of years, but was finally replaced by a substantial dwelling of more modern appearance.

The estate of Mr. Hodge consists of ninety acres, the greater part of which is under cultivation. Neatness and order prevail over the farm and the crops raised are second to none in the locality. A visitor to this farm will find modern machinery in use and well-fed stock of good grades grazing in the pastures.

In Oneida County, N. Y., January 16, 1836, Mr. Hodge was born, and there he lived until he was a lad about entering his teens. His parents were John and Amy (Nelson) Hodge, the former of whom died when the son was ten years old and the latter survived until March 31, 1888. Our subject has a brother Albert now living in Muskegon, and two sisters, Mrs. Sylvester Crocker in New York State and Mrs. Harvey Stanton in Lake View, Mich. After the death of his father he was thrown largely upon his own resources for a livelihood, and he aided in the support of his mother, living with her until he was twenty years old and in later years having her company in his own home. Soon after the father's death the widowed mother brought her family to Ionia County, and for a short time their home was on the farm now occupied by Ezra North, in Easton Township. They subsequently occupied other tracts of land and he of whom we write learned habits of industry, practical economy and integrity. When he could he attended school, gaining his fundamental instruction in his native State and adding to it in the early schools of Michigan and still more by reading and personal observation.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Hodge November 12, 1851, bore the maiden name of Ann C. Finch. She was born in Cattaraugus County N. Y., November 15, 1838, and is a daughter of Isaac and Almeda Finch. Her father was a soldier in the War of 1812. When she was a mere child her parents came to this State and settled in Easton Township, Ionia County. They carried on pioneer work there and in their lives represented the sturdy nature of those who opened up the way for civilization in the great Northwest. Mr. Finch was a Democrat in politics. He died November 4, 1875, some years after his wife had been borne to the tomb. He has one son surviving; Silas, and one daughter, Mrs. Hodge. The latter has two chil-

dren: Almeda, wife of John Ryer, and Louisa, wife of Guy Conner. Mr. and Mrs. Hodge have four grandchildren—Lulu, Freddie and Lena Ryer, and Ethel A. Conner.

Mr. Hodge has served as School Director three years and is acting as Highway Commissioner for the twelfth year. He has always shown himself interested in public improvements, and the fact of his long continuance in office as Highway Commissioner is proof that he has efficiently worked and given universal satisfaction in that station. In politics he is a Democrat, with strong leanings toward the Greenback doctrines. He is identified with the Patrons of Industry. January 16, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Sixteenth Michigan Infantry, and remained in the service until July 26, spending his time chiefly in drilling and guard duty in this State. He and his wife are among the honored members of the society of their locality, and their hospitality and generous neighborly qualities, together with their sterling integrity, are well known to their acquaintances.



HIRAM N. LEE, a prominent citizen of Keene Township and ex-Sheriff of Ionia County, resides on section 23, of above named township. He is a native of this county, and was born on the 14th of June, 1848. He is the son of Hiram S. and Elvira (West) Lee, both natives of New York State, of English descent. Hiram S. Lee emigrated to Ionia County in about 1840. He located in Odessa Township and resided there a number of years, being one of the early settlers of that township. His father was one of the soldiers in the War of 1812. In 1851 he came to Keene Township, where he settled on section 23, and still resides there, enjoying a hale and hearty old age, having passed the limit of three-score years and ten. He is one of the representative pioneers of the county and an earnest Republican in politics. Of his five children three are living—our subject, Judson and Henry.

Hiram N. Lee has been reared to manhood in this county and inured from childhood to the hardships of pioneer life. He received his education in

the district schools of Keene Township and private and High schools of Ionia County. He has been an extensive reader all his life and is well informed on matters of general intelligence. His marriage took place in September, 1868. His bride Christina Converse, was an orphan. She was born in Ontario, Canada, and a daughter of Adin Converse. One son has blessed this union—Adelbert—born March 7, 1880.

Mr. Lee settled on his present farm in 1868 and with the exception of the four years when he served as Sheriff of Ionia County, and when he lived in Ionia, he has remained there continuously. He owns one hundred and ninety-five acres of land in excellent condition and well improved. He has a fine residence and first-class barns and outhouses. He has served three years as Supervisor of Keene Township, and was clerk of the township two years. He was first elected Sheriff in the fall of 1884, on the Democratic ticket with a majority of nearly five hundred votes. He took charge of the Sheriff's office in January, 1885, for a term of two years, at the expiration of which time he received the re-nomination by acclamation at the Democratic county convention in the fall of 1887 and was re-elected for another term of two years. He served with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. His majority at his re-election was about seven hundred. He and his good wife are active members of society, in favor of everything that will improve and elevate the standing of the community. He is a courteous and entertaining gentleman and is unusually well informed on political topics. The hospitality of this excellent couple is proverbial in the community. In his official capacity while serving Ionia County as Sheriff he inaugurated a wise, conservative, business-like administration, which has given him popularity and the county a good reputation. The same may be said of his administration of affairs while serving in the several official capacities to which he has been from time to time elected by the people of Keene Township. He has throughout all applied those sound, judicious business-like principles for which he is so notable. He has a large and influential acquaintance in Ionia County, of which he is a thoroughly representative citizen.

A. Judson Lee, a brother of the subject of this sketch, is the present efficient Supervisor of Keene Township, and resides on his well-improved farm on section 23. The date of his birth is June 1, 1851. He was educated in the schools of Keene Township and Ionia City. He has been twice married. His present wife bore the maiden name of Marian Thompson. He is the father of two surviving children, namely: Maud A. and Jessie. He owns a well-improved farm of eighty acres of rich and productive land on which he has resided most of the time since 1874. He has served two years as School Inspector of Keene Township, and is now serving with credit his second term as its Supervisor. He is a Democrat in politics and identified with the Grange, and also with the Patrons of Industry. The Lees are among the representative pioneer families of Ionia County and it can be said that they among the corner stones of Keene Township.

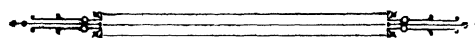


JOHAN R. PURDY. Among the native-born citizens of Otisco Township, Ionia County, may be mentioned John Purdy, who was born December 24, 1848. He is a son of John D. and Rosilla (Rowley) Purdy, who were natives of New York and who came to this State in 1846. They took possession of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which Mr. Purdy spent the most of his remaining years, although he died in Smyrna in 1869. His father was Samuel Purdy, also a native of New York and a farmer, who came to this State in 1848 and died near Lansing. Our subject is the youngest child of his parents, whose remaining children are Eliza B., James P., George W., Jane, Sarah A., Ruth and Rosilla.

He of whom we write remained at home until he was eighteen years of age, pursuing his studies in the neighboring school and fitting himself for the occupation which he has since followed—that of farming. He now owns a tract of one hundred and fifteen acres in his native township, which is managed so as to be the source of a very satisfactory

income. During the past three years Mr. Purdy has been engaged in evaporating apples—an enterprise in which he has proved himself to be very successful. He cannot be called a politician, but he keeps well informed regarding the questions of the day and is sufficiently interested in good government to vote, and his ticket is a Republican one.

In Smyrna, April 2, 1871, the marriage of Mr. Purdy and Laura E. Davis was solemnized. The bride was the third child of Alvin and Emily (French) Davis, her brothers and sisters being named Flora, Virgil, Eva, Daniel, Lemuel, Robert R. and Charles. Her father was born in New York and her mother in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Purdy are the parents of a son, Guy Alvin, who was born September 24, 1874, and is at home attending school.



GEORGE P. WICKES, son of A. C. Wickes of Day Township, Montcalm County, whose sketch appears in this book, is a prominent young farmer whose enterprise, public spirit and liberality entitle him to the respect which he receives in the community. He is the eldest of four children born in Grand Rapids, his natal day being November 21, 1858. His early years were spent upon the farm and he took advantage of what education was provided in the common schools in Ottawa and Kent Counties. When he reached his majority he went to work in a sawmill at Jennisonville. After that he went to Derby Lake and to Windsor's Mill, both in this county. In about 1882 he began to work for Cutler & Savage at Spring Lake. He became head sawyer and held this position with credit to himself and benefit to his employers, until 1886 when he left them and located on this farm, where he now resides and which has been bought by himself and his brother several years previous. The farm is situated on section 36, Day Township, is well improved, neatly fenced and in every way in a good condition. He here carries on general farming and stock-raising. Our subject chose as his life partner Winnie



John D. Foster

Haminger, daughter of John Haminger, a Hollander. Her father and grandfather came to America and made their home in Georgetown, Ottawa County, Mich., where they took a farm and improved it from the dense forest to a finely appointed estate. The father also engaged in lumbering as well as farming. He is a prominent and representative man, and with his wife who bore the maiden name of Catherine Plow, is active in the interests of the Reformed Dutch Church. One of the eleven children of this worthy couple is our subject's wife. She was born in Georgetown, April 24, 1853, and there she was reared and educated.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wickes have been born three children—Ernest E., Leroy and a babe unnamed. Mr. Wickes is School Assessor and Pathmaster, has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is an active worker in the Patrons of Industry. He is a Republican in politics and his church relations are with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JOHN J. FOSTER. The firm of John J. Foster & Co., consisting of John J. Foster and H. N. Anderson, was organized in 1882 and has been carrying on a constantly increasing trade at Greenville, Montcalm County. They handle thirty-five million feet of lumber per year, and have a steam sawmill in Newaygo County that has a capacity of fifty thousand feet per day and gives employment to a number of men. The force engaged there and in the lumber camps numbers eighty, the firm having large tracts of pine land. Lumber is sold by the firm at their mill in car loads and an immense business is done by them there and in Greenville. Our subject is also the owner and sole proprietor of the Greenville Gas Works, and is one of the firm of Foster & Miller, dealers in all kinds of produce, which they ship all over the United States.

John C. and Julia A. (Haseltine) Foster were natives of New York and Vermont respectively. The father taught school in his younger days and subsequently engaged in the grocery business. He

next became a contractor on the Erie Canal, one of his contracts being for the building of the largest aqueduct on the line, at Montezuma Marsh and the Seneca River. He also dredged Crooked Lake where Penn Yan is now built. Mr. Foster put in operation a peat crushing machine for Spaulding, of New York, which proved to be a failure. His next enterprise was to engage in the lumber business at Port Byron and he soon worked up a large run of custom. From that point he went to Brewerton on Oneida Lake, where he made lumber and staves for six years. He then began moving his mill to Forest Port, Oneida County, on the Black River, but before the task was completed he was taken sick and died in 1872. He had held a number of offices, among them that of County Superintendent of Schools in Cayuga County, where he had taught. He was an active temperance worker and member of the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject was born at Port Byron, Cayuga County, N. Y., September 23, 1852. He received his education in his native place at Brewerton and Syracuse. He was nineteen years old when his father died and was at that time associated with him in business. In company with his father's brother, Jacob T. Foster, who went to New York State from Chicago, the young man finished moving the mill, and the two continued to run the same until the hard times came on and they were obliged to sell in 1874. They were unable to realize much on the property, as it was impossible to raise money, and our subject made his way to this State to begin again the battle of life, this time empty handed. He reached Greenville March 18, 1874, and being offered the position of inspector of lumber at Trufant, in Montcalm County, by the firm of Hileman, Hesser & Co., he accepted. He remained with the firm seven years' acting as foreman, inspector, book-keeper and traveling salesman, at different periods. While he was traveling he conceived the idea that certain lumber was worth more than it was selling for and that it could be shipped with profit. Having accumulated a few hundred dollars he began to buy pine and sell the same and from the start he met with success.

Since the partnership between Foster and Anderson was formed they have carried on an extensive

business. Mr. Foster is one of the organizers of the City National Bank and a Director of the company. He owns the Foster Block on Main Street, which is three stories high and is built for two stores on the ground. He has a fine farm a quarter of a mile from the city limits, and with Mr. Miller is interested in a four hundred-acre tract two and three-quarter miles from the city. On this place Shropshire and fine Merino sheep, Short-horn cattle and draft horses are being raised in considerable numbers.

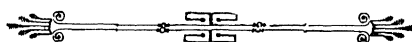
The paternal grandfather of our subject was Jacob Foster who was born in Connecticut and went thence to New York, settling near Auburn. He was a man of fine literary talent, self-educated and in his younger days was a teacher of excellent reputation. In New York he was extensively engaged in farming. In 1840 he removed to Wisconsin and settling at Port Washington, carried on his work there until death. His wife, formerly Louisa Brooks, also died there. Mr. Foster was an ardent Republican and he and his wife were working members of the Presbyterian Church. Their family consisted of eight children, the father of our subject being the third in order of birth and he was born in Washington County, N. Y., in 1812.

The mother of our subject was born in Rutland County, Vt., in 1818. Her parents were Daniel and Elizabeth (Sunderland) Haseltine, natives of the Green Mountain State and farmers there until 1821, when they removed to New York. They made their home in the city of Auburn and Mr. Haseltine was engaged in various business enterprises until his death in 1834. Mrs. Haseltine died at Port Byron December 23, 1858. The daughter who became Mrs. Foster received her education in select schools in Auburn and possesses more than ordinary culture. Her marriage was solemnized in her home in that city January 26, 1837. She is the mother of five children, two deceased, and David H., Frances J. and John J., living. She is now an inmate of the home of her youngest son.

Mr. Foster was married in 1871 to Miss Minerva, daughter of Edwin and Catherine Hill Brewerton, Oneida County, N. Y. His wife is an educated, refined lady, and their daughter Kittie M. is a cultured and gracious young lady. Mr. Foster and

his family occupy a beautiful home on the corner of Benton and Franklin Streets, surrounded with shade trees and furnished in accordance with the means and taste of the occupants. Mr. Foster is a member of the City Council. He is connected with the social orders of Masonry and Knights of Pythias. He has good reason to be gratified with the financial success he has achieved and to be proud of his home and family.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Foster appears in connection with this sketch.



CHARLES S. COWLES. A traveler throughout Ionia County will see many farms that give evidence of enterprise and good judgment on the part of their owners, and indicate in an unmistakable manner the prosperity that attends them. Among those of this class in Otisco Township is one on section 32, that consists of two hundred and thirty acres, two hundred of which has been placed under cultivation and supplied with a full line of substantial farm buildings. Inquiry elicits the fact that this property belongs to Charles S. Cowles, who, in addition to his farm work is a breeder of Cotswold sheep. His present residence has been occupied by Mr. Cowles only since 1880, at which time he came hither from Keene Township.

Solomon Cowles, the father of Charles S., was a native of the Green Mountain State. When a young man he was engaged in farming, but he learned the trade of a mason, to which he devoted his time to some extent. In quite an early day he removed to New York and from that State he went to Canada, where he sojourned twenty-one years. His next removal was to Keene Township, Ionia County, in 1859. There he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he subsequently added until his farm included three hundred and sixty acres. He died there in 1866. He was a member of the Congregational Church. Previous to going to New York he was married to Persis Shaw, daughter of Eben and Persis (Wilder) Shaw and a native of Massachusetts. This faithful help-

mate survived him some years and breathed her last in 1888. Their children are Fordyce R., Edward R., Clarissa J., Charles S., Richard B., and Louisa.

The birth of Charles S. Cowles occurred near Lockport, N. Y., January 23, 1832, and he accompanied his parents to Canada during his boyhood. His education was acquired in the common schools and his knowledge of farming under his father's instruction. When twenty-two years old he came to this State and spent one summer in Kalamazoo. He then came into Keene Township, Ionia County, and worked at the carpenter's trade for three years, after which he turned his attention to agriculture. In this occupation he has retained his interest, and by it he has done well for himself financially and won a good name as a tiller of the soil.

June 1, 1859, Mr. Cowles was married to Miss Jane Carr. This estimable woman and capable helpmate is a daughter of John and Jane (Gibson) Carr, who were born in Belfast, Ireland, and whose family also includes James, John, George, Margaret and Isaac. Mr. and Mrs. Cowles are the happy parents of six children named respectively, Prudence, Edward C., Reuben S., Earl and Carl (twins), and Bela.

For a number of years Mr. Cowles voted the Republican ticket but he is now connected with the Democratic party. While living in Keene Township he served as Supervisor two terms. He is identified with the Patrons of Industry.



THOMAS HALL. Among the many bright and capable citizens of our county born of Irish ancestry is Thomas Hall, who has a fine farm on section 4, Ronald Township, Ionia County. He was born April 12, 1831, in Greenwood Township, Crawford County, Pa. His father, John Hall, came to America from the Emerald Isle in 1824, and resides now where he first settled in Crawford County, Pa. He has now reached the advanced age of four-score and eight years, the completion of which period he celebrated the 22d of February. He is a good scholar, well read and

very smart for his years. He made a visit to his son in Michigan in last September.

The mother of our subject was Margaret Walker, a native of Ireland who accompanied her husband to this country. They were married in Ireland and lived together until her death in August, 1849. The father married a second time and his second wife is still living. Nine children blessed the first union, three of whom survive—Eliza, Mrs. Smock; Thomas and Katie. Three children of the second marriage survive—Edward, William and Ida.

Thomas Hall was reared in his native town until eighteen years of age when he came West. He went on the lakes as a sailor. This work he followed for six years, and did so well in it that he was promoted to the position of first mate. He now felt that he had made a sufficient start in life to establish a home, and married Rachael Minier in Ohio. She was born in Ottawa County, that State. Of this union there are three children: Martha, deceased; Margaret, Mrs. Edward Staines; and Susan, deceased. The mother of these children was called to her heavenly home June 28, 1859. The second marriage of Mr. Hall was with Mrs. Rachael Griffin, born in Erie County, N. Y., February 26, 1838. She was reared in her native place. Her maiden name was Rachael North. Three children crowned this second marriage: Freeman; Dora, now Mrs. R. W. Griffin, of Palo; and Pearl.

The subject of this sketch came to Michigan in 1856 and worked for Mr. VanVleck for eight years in Palo, and in 1865 located where he now resides on an unimproved farm. He built a board house 16x22 feet, one story high. The first spring he set out thirty apple trees. He has put in many a hard day's work and is now doing a fine business. He is a Republican, a member of the Patrons of Industry and he and his wife and two daughters are members of the Baptist Church, having their membership in Palo. They take an active part in the Sunday-school. The fine residence of our subject is much admired in the neighborhood. The woodwork inside is all ash in the natural finish. The place is well improved in every respect and most of the work has been done by his own hands. His large barn is well arranged and everything

about the farm is first-class. He has always been a great worker. In 1853 he cut seven and one-fourth cords of four-foot wood in ten hours. This was done on a wager, the bet being that he could cut one more cord in ten hours than the other man. He cut one and one-fourth cords more than his opponent.



FRANCIS S. BROWER. This representative farmer of Keene Township belongs to a family that is numbered among the early settlers of Ionia County, having come here in 1840. He was born in Monroe County, N. Y., January 11, 1836, and his parents were Zaccheus and Elizabeth (Goodwin) Brower. His father was a native of the same State as himself, and his mother was born in New Hampshire. Upon removing to this State they made their home in Easton Township a few months then took possession of the land now operated by our subject. It consists of eighty acres, which was secured from the Government at \$1.25 per acre.

Mr. Brower, the father, felled trees and built a log cabin about 18x22 feet, which was still his residence when he was stricken by a fatal illness and died in 1856. The widowed mother survived until 1883 and saw many changes on the homestead and in the surrounding country. In the death of Zaccheus Brown the county lost an estimable citizen, who had been industrious and public spirited and who had cheerfully endured the untoward circumstances of pioneer life. He had served as School Director and Justice of the Peace. He voted with the Democratic party.

Of the ten children comprising the parental family the present survivors are Sylvester, Francis S., Harmon, Oliver, Fillmore and Arabella, now Mrs. Joseph Monk. Francis has been a life-long farmer and during his boyhood took part in the labor by which the section in which he lives was reclaimed from the forest wildness and wrought into fair and fruitful farms. He obtained his education in schools which afforded advantages decidedly inferior to those of the present day, but like other men of nat-

ural intelligence and ambition he has gained wisdom from various sources since leaving the school room.

The lady who has charge of the domestic economy at Mr. Brower's home became his wife May 27, 1869, prior to which date she was known as Miss Anna Street. She was born in the Province of Ontario May 5, 1846, and is a daughter of Erastus and Jane (Folwell) Street. Her father was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, and her mother was a native of Niagara County, N. Y. The father died in Canada, April 21, 1852. The mother with her family removed to Iowa when Mrs. Brower was about ten years old, and came to Ionia County in 1866, making her home in Saranac, and dying there January 18, 1867. Of the eight children born to her the only survivor beside Mrs. Brower is Charles D. whose home is in Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Brower have had eight children, but three have been removed from them by death. The living are Francis H., Orpha E., Harvey E., Orla E., and Mary A. Orpha is now the wife of Peter D. Sparks.

The political allegiance of Mr. Brower is given to the Democratic party, but he has a decided leaning toward Greenback principles. He has often been chosen for town offices but would accept no public position, preferring the quietude of home life. His sterling integrity and conservatism are well known to his acquaintances, and he and his capable and intelligent wife are respected members of society.



ISAAC DICKASON. There are still living in Montcalm County many who have passed through the experiences common to all pioneers, having come to the county when it was sparsely settled and when much of the land that now presents such an attractive appearance was clothed with a dense forest. One of this number is Mr. Dickason, who for many years has been living in Blomer Township. He made his present location in 1855, when wild game such as deer, bear and turkeys was plentiful, and he could kill deer from

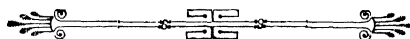
his own doorway. He did a great deal of hunting and remembers that one time he killed two deer, one weighing one hundred and ninety-four pounds, the other two hundred and four pounds when dressed. Mr. Dickason saw some hard times while clearing and developing his land, but he also enjoyed the pleasures of association with a whole-souled, warm-hearted circle. Among the incidents of his pioneer life was that of grating corn for bread, and carrying a bushel and a half of wheat on his back to mill eleven miles distant and in the same manner bringing the flour to his home.

The birthplace of Mr. Dickason was Ashland County, Ohio, his parents James and Mary (White) Dickason, and his natal day December 19, 1830. His father fought in the War of 1812 and was a soldier under William Henry Harrison in the Indian War where that General gained renown. His occupation was farming, and the early years of our subject were spent in the country with but limited school privileges. His education therefore, has mainly been obtained by his own efforts and since he grew to manhood. His parents were natives of the Keystone State and by inheritance and training he has the thrift and energy that almost invariably characterize the people of that State. He learned the blacksmith's trade and worked at it a part of the time, when by so doing he could improve his condition.

In 1854 Mr. Dickason came to Montcalm County and the next year took up one hundred and sixty acres of land. He was obliged to cut his road from the center of the town to his new location, and by his personal efforts the timber was removed from the land. He now has but half the original acreage, but upon this he has excellent improvements, including the needful buildings and a fruitful orchard. He has a good sugar camp of about four hundred trees and often gets a thousand pounds of sugar therefrom.

Mr. Dickason was married to Miss Josephine E. Miner, May 6, 1856. The bride was a daughter of Anderson and Delilah (Armstrong) Miner, and has been a resident of Montcalm County since 1852. Her mother is now living with her at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Dickason have had two children—Mary Delila, who was born

April 28, 1858, and died October 24, 1862, and Lillian C., who was born July 18, 1877. Mr. Dickason has always taken an interest in education and his daughter has received excellent schooling and good instruction in music and is a fine musician. He has filled the various school offices and has also served his neighborhood as Pathmaster. He owns a nice residence in Carson City which was built for his own use, although he still occupies his rural home. Mr. and Mrs. Dickason are well respected by their extended circle of acquaintances and are always classed among the better citizens. They both joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1855, and are in good standing.

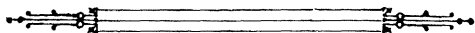


WILLIAM WHITE, editor and proprietor of the *Edmore Journal*, has lived in Montcalm County since 1869. He was born in Ft. Wayne, Ind., March 18, 1858, and was left an orphan in his early childhood, his father being killed in the battle of Bull Run while serving in an Indiana regiment. The boyhood of Mr. White was spent in his native State and from an early age he was obliged to work his own way. After coming to this State he did such work as his strength would permit, and in 1873 became an inmate of the home of William H. Stevens, of Stanton. There he had the advantage of abundant food, good clothing and an opportunity to attend school until he had completed the High School course.

In 1879, when his studies were done, Mr. White engaged in painting, but two years later he formed a partnership with P. S. Dodge and founded the *Stanton Clipper*. In 1882 he sold out to his partner and spent the summer in Hastings, Minn. In February, 1883, he came to Edmore and bought the *Journal*, which he has since carried on with pleasing success. The paper is a weekly, five-column quarto, has a good circulation and is deserving of the patronage it enjoys, as its columns are filled with well selected news, such local items as will be enjoyed by the citizens, and stirring utterances on various questions in which they are concerned. The political leaning of the paper is

toward the Republican party and its editor is outspoken in his expressions regarding public affairs and tenets of Governmental policy. Mr. White can well look with pride over his business career, for he has been more than ordinarily successful, now owning his business block and a pleasant residence.

At the head of the household in Mr. White's home is the lady who became his wife November 24, 1884. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Lillian Carveth, was born in Barry County, and for several years was engaged in teaching in Montcalm County. Two bright children have come to bless the happy home—Fay B. and Leon. Mr. White is Secretary of Edmore Lodge, I.O.O.F., and is identified with the Knights of the Macca-bees. He is a Trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mental culture of himself and wife, their social qualities and excellent characters, alike give them the respect of their associates and their friends are counted by the score.



ALBERT S. FRENCH, of Lake View, Montcalm County, was born in Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., February 1, 1828. He is a son of Abel and Angeline (Rust) French, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, respectively. They took up their residence in New York at an early date and lived there for many years. The mother of our subject was called from earth while living in Ellicottville and the father came to Michigan about 1844 and made his home in Virgens, Kent County. A few years later he removed to Greenville, when that village was in its initial existence. He later removed to Chicago, Ill., and after a few years of residence there he returned to Michigan and spent the remainder of his days in Colon. He was a merchant and through most of his life was a man of considerable means. For four years he was Sheriff of Montgomery County, and an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In his earlier years he belonged to the Whig party and later cast his vote with the Republicans. His father, Daniel French, was a soldier in the War of

1812 and lost his left leg on the battlefield, in consequence of which loss he received a pension from the Government. At an early day he came West and died at Ypsilanti, Mich.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Justin Rush, a native of Massachusetts and a Revolutionary soldier who died at Ellicottville, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Abel French had but two children, namely: Justin R. and Albert S.; the former was one of the pioneers of Lake View and died about two years ago at his brother's home.

When thirteen years old Albert left his native county and came to Kent County, Mich., with his father. His early life was passed on the farm where he received only a limited education. When seventeen years of age he left home and went as a sailor on the lakes. He followed this calling for four years, when he returned home to his native town, and was there joined in marriage, December 31, 1848, to Miss Amanda M. Bryant, who was born in the same town, April 18, 1827. She is a daughter of Samuel and Anna (Stanton) Bryant. Mr. and Mrs. French were born within one-quarter of a mile from each other, and were friends and playmates from their earliest days. Mr. and Mrs. Bryant ended their days at the old home in Ellicottville.

The subject of this notice and his good wife have been the happy parents of eight children, namely: Franklin II., who married Anna Childs, of Stanton, and who has one child, Jessie. He is an insurance and loan agent at Stanton. Charles F. is a farmer and lumberman at Lake View; he married Ida Dunham, of Stanton, and has two children—Earl and Thomas. Albert D., a lumberman and farmer at Lake View, married Miss Mary Covey and has two children—Harlan and Glenn. Truman, a lumberman in Lincoln, Neb., married Miss Leora Bissel, of Lake View, and has had two children—Lincoln, and Gladys (deceased). Ida A., Mrs. Thomas R. Welch, of Reed City; Stanley; Anna M. and John W. deceased.

Mr. French remained in his native town after his marriage for a few years and then removed to Greenville, Mich., where he lived until 1857, when he removed into the woods and settled on a tract of Government land, upon and about which the

village of Lake View now stands. Here in this primeval forest he erected a log cabin, with punch-eon floor and benches for chairs, and began clearing up a farm. Deer, wolves and wild game of all kinds abounded, as also did the red man. The site of the log cabin was an old Indian camping ground. In 1866 the village of Lake View was platted on his farm. He is recognized as the father of the town. He has a pleasant and comfortable residence in the village and is today one of the solid men of Lake View and of Montcalm County. He is and has been for several years a land agent, and controls the sale of large tracts of timber land, having about one thousand acres in his own right. He has also for many years been more or less engaged in the lumber business. He started in life poor and by his enterprise and industry has made all that he possesses. He suffered a \$10,000 loss by a contract on the Saginaw Valley & St. Louis Railroad when it was in course of construction, but he is now in good financial condition. He is also largely interested in rich mineral lands in Northern Wisconsin. In his early manhood he was a Whig but is now a strong Republican. For many years he was Township Supervisor and Justice of the Peace. In 1864 he was Treasurer of Montcalm County, being elected on the Republican ticket and has been three times re-elected to the same office, serving in all eight years. He is a Knight Templar Mason and was the first President of Lake View village.



THOMAS THOMAS. It affords the publishers of this ALBUM pleasure to incorporate in its pages an outline of the life of this respected citizen of Ionia County, who is now serving efficiently as Treasurer of Easton Township. It is impossible to follow his course in life in every detail, but the reader can easily fill out the picture which will be sketched in these paragraphs. Mr. Thomas comes of Welsh blood, his parents, John and Mary Thomas, having emigrated from their native land a short time before his birth. They located in Orleans County, N. Y., and there the youth of our subject was chiefly passed. He was

born there September 8, 1837, and in his boyhood went with his parents to Genesee County, but when about sixteen returned to his native county where his parents subsequently died.

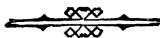
The parental family consisted of ten children and two were brought by their parents from Wales, and the others born in America. Those who are now living are Ann, wife of Henry Vacon in Orleans County, N. Y.; George, whose home is in the same county; Thomas, the subject of this notice; Frederick, whose home is in Ionia; Francis, who lives in Orleans County; Jane, wife of Wayne Simpson of Toledo, Ohio, and Mary, wife of Edward West of Orleans County, N. Y.

When he was about eighteen years old Thomas Thomas began learning wagon-making with his father, who was a mechanic in that line, and for several years he followed the trade. With that exception his time has mostly been spent in farming, he having learned the details of that occupation in his youth, as his father owned a farm which the sons carried on under his supervision. When our subject came to this State in 1863 and settled on his present estate he found it in a condition far from what he wished and he has labored hard to make the improvements which he thought necessary. He has ninety-eight acres under excellent cultivation and the estate bears such buildings as are usually erected by a man of enterprise and good judgment.

Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Sophronia Brown, December 18, 1862, and the happy union has been blessed by the birth of three children, whose names and natal days are as follows: Minnie B., born October 19, 1873; Frank H., September 17, 1875, and George W., February 22, 1878. Mrs. Thomas is one of five children born to Hiram and Mary (Hutchinson) Brown who were natives of Canada and Vermont respectively. She has a brother and sister living, Edwin R., being a resident of Ionia Township, and Charlotte O., the wife of Robert McKendry in Easton Township. She was born in Orleans County, N. Y., in September, 1839, was carefully reared and has been efficient, judicious and devoted to the interests of her family and to the good of those about her. She is a member of the Baptist Church, an efficient worker in

the Ladies' Aid Society and was formerly connected with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

As Supervisor of Easton Township Mr. Thomas served four consecutive years with credit to himself and constituents. He is now filling the office of Treasurer for the third year. In politics he is a Democrat with leanings toward the principles of the Greenback party. He is identified with the Grange and the Patrons of Industry, and manifests an interest in every movement which has a tendency to improve the condition of the people in the locality in which he lives. He had but common-school advantages, but he has read and thought, and is recognized as one of the intelligent and well-informed, as well as progressive and influential, agriculturists of the county. He has been faithful to the trusts reposed in him, and has won the confidence of the people and become popular by reason of his courtesy, hospitality and pleasant disposition.



DENMAN W. WOODMAN, belongs to a family of English descent who trace their ancestry back to the "Mayflower" that landed at Plymouth Rock. He resides on section 13, Keene Township, Ionia County. He was born January 27, 1820, in Jefferson County, N. Y., and is the son of Joseph and Sallie (Wright) Woodman. His father was a native of New Hampshire and his mother of Massachusetts. The father was a physician by profession and served as a surgeon in the War of 1812. In 1837 there was a family emigration to Oakland County, Mich., and the settlement was made in Novi Township. His father lived but a short time after their arrival in the new home, expiring August 15, 1838. The mother died in Ionia County, and both lie side by side in the cemetery in Oakland County in the township where he settled. Six children were given to these parents, four of whom still survive: Elias S., living in Wayne County; William W., in Jefferson County, Wis.; Denman W., and Benjamin F., in Saranac, Mich.

Our subject received his education in the schools in Jefferson County, N. Y., and in those of Oakland

County, Mich. These were, of course, less complete in their course of study and less thorough in their drill than the schools of today. But an extensive course of reading indulged in throughout life has made this man intelligent and progressive in his views. He has made political questions a specialty and is more than ordinarily intelligent in their discussion.

February 15, 1857, saw the union of our subject with Irene Bogart, who was born in Wayne County, Mich., May 3, 1836. Her parents, Henry and Jane (Swift) Bogart, were early settlers in that county, having come there in Territorial days. They are now quite aged and have brought up a large family of children. The following of their household now survive: Elizabeth, wife of Edward Whittaker, residing in Wayne County; Thomas E., in Oakland County; Irene; Marvin, residing in Oakland County; Eliza Jane, Mrs. Harry Seeley, residing in Minnesota; Juliet, wife of Eugene W. Husted, in Muskegon County; Susan, Mrs. B. Requay, in Oakland County; Emma H., wife of Robert Richardson of Detroit; Howard M., in Owosso, Mich., and Henry in Minnesota. Mr. Bogart was an earnest Republican in politics. Mrs. Bogart brought up her children in the faith of the Baptist Church.

Two children only have been granted to Mr. and Mrs. Woodman, William W. and Emmet M. Mr. Woodman came to Ionia County, in 1852, and made his home on what is now his present farm in Keene Township. For several years his mother kept house for him. He purchased forty acres of land from the Government at \$1.25 per acre, and at the same time bought eighty acres of land for which he paid \$2.50 per acre. His first home was a log house about 18x26 feet in dimensions and this sheltered his home for years, until he built the fine residence which now adorns his farm. He settled in the woods and developed and made the farm what it is today. He saw much of pioneer life and has done much for the development of the county. Eighty acres now constitutes his home farm. His political views are embraced in the platform of the Democratic party. He has served as School Inspector of Keene Township, and also as Township Treasurer.



Geo W Tucker

Mrs. Woodman is an earnest and efficient member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mr. Woodman is identified with Boston Lodge No. 146, A. F. & A. M. He and his wife are both active members of society. He is one of the charter members of Keene Grange No. 270, and is now serving as Chaplain of the Grange lodge, which position he has filled with the exception of a few months ever since its organization. His has been a successful life and one which is crowned with honor.



GEORGE W. TUCKER was an early pioneer of Sidney Township, Montcalm County, as he was born in this township, April 27, 1860, in the days when none lived here except pioneers. He is the son of Daniel and Diantha (Gilmore) Tucker. Great hardships and small advantages were his in early boyhood and he grew to manhood surrounded by influences which tended to strengthen his sturdy independence and make him invulnerable to the temptations of ease and luxury. From his twelfth year he has cared for himself and he has kept up the battle of life most courageously and untiringly.

This young man worked at milling and lumbering and by hard work, strict economy and the help of a good Providence has acquired a fine farm of eighty acres and a handsome residence in Sidney Center, also a half interest in a large shingle mill situated here. At the age of sixteen years he left his native State to see what he could find in other parts of our country. He visited Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri, and returned to Michigan in about a year and a half, thoroughly satisfied that no part of the United States can excel Michigan as the home of an honest, industrious man.

Mr. Tucker has but one brother, Henry, who resides in the State of Washington, and one sister, Mrs. Lucina Beigle, who resides at Clifford Lake, Montcalm County. June 13, 1884, saw the celebration of his marriage to Hannah V. Doddridge, of Jay County, Ind. Four children have blessed this pleasant home, namely: Frank, born May 14,

1885; E. B., January 21, 1886; Plum Guy, August 19, 1888, and George, May 17, 1890. The lives of all this household have been spared to the present time.

Mr. Tucker's mill employs from twenty-five to twenty-eight men and he operates his farm by hired help, but oversees everything in person. He enjoyed the hardships known to all settlers of this county and has lived for months on johnny cake. At other times the bill of fare was all comprised in the word "beans." All this prepared him keenly to appreciate the improved condition of things in this day.

In connection with his biographical notice a lithographic portrait of Mr. Tucker is presented to the readers of the ALBUM.



JOHN PEOPLES. Perhaps no better representative of the agriculturalists of Montcalm County can be found than in the person of Mr. Peoples, who is one of the oldest settlers in Home Township. His original homestead here consisted of one hundred and sixty acres on section 21, now occupied in part by the village of Edmore. Mr. Peoples was one of the first homesteaders in Montcalm County, and probably in the State, although Government land had been settled upon in various parts a number of years before his coming. The township was a dense, dark forest, in which not a clearing had been made, and the Peoples brothers found it slow work to prepare a small patch for their first crop of vegetables. Our subject hewed out a space in which to build a log cabin and then began chopping down the trees that surrounded it. As soon as possible he planted potatoes, and later added to the cultivated land and to the variety of the products he raised. The first few summers he worked in Fair Plains during harvest and haying time.

Mr. Peoples is of Irish birth and ancestry, but several generations prior to his own birth the family went from Scotland to the Emerald Isle. They were of the old Presbyterian stock, so many of whom settled in Ireland during the years of the relig-

ious troubles in the two countries. Hugh Peoples, grandfather of our subject, spent his entire life in Ireland, following the occupation of farming. His son Edward, who was born in County Donegal, carried on a similar occupation there until he retired from active life. He then went to Ayrshire, Scotland, where the son of whom we write was living, and late in the '50s emigrated to America. He was quite advanced in years, and from that time until his decease resided with his children. He passed away in Home Township, Montcalm County at the ripe age of eighty-four years. His wife died while on the way to America and was buried at sea. She bore the maiden name of Jennie Hunter, was born in the same Irish county as her husband, and was the daughter of John Hunter, a lifelong farmer there.

John Peoples, who is the third of five children, was born near Welford, County Donegal, Ireland, in 1834. He was reared on the farm and had no educational advantages, as the schools were carried on under a tuition system, and his father had not the money to pay for his attendance. He is, therefore, a self-made man, the deficiencies in whose early opportunities have been made up by his close observation and careful reading in later years. When fifteen years of age he went to Scotland and found employment in the Hamilton Bleach Factory, at Blakely Mill, Ayrshire. He worked there about five years and became foreman in the blueing department, where the cloth was starched and blued. He saw that he could not make any great headway in that country, and determined to seek to better his condition in America—the land of whose resources he heard many glowing accounts.

In April, 1855, Mr. Peoples left Liverpool on the sailing vessel "James L. Boogar." When eight days out a severe storm was encountered and the vessel was badly wrecked, the masts being swept away and the deck cleared. The passengers and crew scarcely expected to see land again, but they put forth every effort to save themselves from a watery grave, and succeeded in reaching harbor at Cork, whence they took steamer to Liverpool. There they made arrangements for a new start and the voyage proved a pleasant one. They reached New York City in a little more than a month, and

Mr. Peoples went direct to Philadelphia, Pa., where he had two sisters. During the summer he worked at Schuylkill Falls, whence he went to Brandywine and found employment in a powder-mill. The following spring he engaged as a hand on a coal wharf at Port Richmond, Pa.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. Peoples came to this State and for a couple of years he was employed on a farm in Wayne County. He then rented land and worked for himself until the spring of 1863 when he came to Montcalm County. He was accompanied by his brother Hugh and a brother-in-law, and they cut their way through the woods from Westville to where they homesteaded land. For some time after making their location they were obliged to haul their provisions from a distance, and many a time our subject was mired so that he had to carry his load to a dry, hard place, and it would require the full strength of the team to pull the empty wagon out of the mud. Such incidents consumed much time and often necessitated sleeping in the wagon and going without food, because the time until nightfall was not sufficient to allow of reaching his destination.

By cutting, rolling and burning, Mr. Peoples got rid of the timber that covered his land, and finally was able to begin farming. About 1877 he traded his homestead for one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, where he is now living. Taking up his residence here, he has by hard work and persistent energy placed about seventy acres under the plow, and at the same time has given considerable attention to the lumber business. His estate is fenced into fields of convenient size, has a good orchard upon it, and as nice farm buildings as any in the township. Mr. Peoples finds a convenient market for his grain and stock in Edmore, which is but a mile and a half from his dwelling.

The marriage of Mr. Peoples and Miss Eliza Sweeney was solemnized at Port Richmond, Pa. The bride was born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1838, and is a daughter of John Sweeney who died in Philadelphia. Mrs. Peoples went from her native land to Ayrshire, Scotland, and thence came to America. She had nine children, three of whom are deceased, namely: John, Hugh and Ella, the last named having departed this life in 1885. The

survivors are Jennie, the wife of J. Elliott, living in Edmore; Annie, who is teaching in Home Township; Edward, who is farming with his father; Emma, whose home is in Grand Rapids; Lizzie, who is teaching in Pine Township; and Lottie, who is a member of the class of '93 in the Edmore High School.

Mr. Peoples has been connected with many of the first things of Home Township. He helped to organize the township, attended the first township meeting, aided in building the first schoolhouses, and has been foremost in advocating every measure which would tend to elevate the people morally, mentally or materially. He has been School Treasurer, and Pathmaster. Politically he is a faithful Republican, unswerving in his belief in the principles of the party, and in the good which their observance will bring to the Nation. Mr. Peoples holds to the ancestral faith in religious matters, believing in Presbyterianism, and showing by his true and upright life that his faith is a living one. Unlike some men who have risen by their own efforts, he is modest and unassuming, and without selfishness. The many privations through which he has passed and the hardships which he has endured only make him the more considerate of others and the more anxious to give to posterity advantages and privileges which he did not enjoy. That he is widely respected and that his wife shares in the esteem of their acquaintances needs not to be said.



WILLIAM S. BATES, like many Michigan farmers, belongs to one of those fine New England families, which, sifting through an early settlement in New York State, finally found in Michigan a land of promise. His father, Philo Bates, was a native of Canandaigua, N. Y., where he was born September 22, 1797. His father the Hon. Stephen Bates, was born in Granville, Mass., August 28, 1773. The parents of Stephen Bates were Phineas and Esther (Curtis) Bates. Phineas was the son of Stephen and Lois and grandson of Stephen and Patience Bates. The father of Phineas Bates died on the road to Quebec

during the French and Indian War. The Bates family came to America during the latter part of the seventeenth century, and this branch of the family settled in Durham, Conn. The grandfather of our subject was a member of the New York State Legislature and was made the recipient of many other public offices. In 1780 he and his father, Phineas Bates, went West as it was then considered, and settled on a tract of land which now lies in the heart of Canandaigua, on the south side of Main Street, and opposite the well-known Granger residence. They were very early settlers there and Stephen being then eighteen years old helped clear off timber from land that is now Main Street. He was also useful to that primitive community in carrying the mail from Canandaigua to Ft. Niagara. Grandfather Hon. Stephen Bates died in Sauk County, Wis., in 1846, about two years after his settlement there.

The mother of our subject is Frances (Babcock) Bates, a native of the township of Hopewell, Ontario County, N. Y. She was born June 10, 1810, and was a daughter of William and Julia (Reed) Babcock, natives of New England, who settled at an early date in Ontario County, N. Y., and moved to Michigan in the fall of 1836. Previous to their coming here they had in 1835, located a large tract of land, two and a quarter sections, in this locality. From the time of Mr. Babcock's arrival until the day of his death he was one of the prominent and influential men in the community. His influence was good and strong. He took a leading part in political and also in church matters, being a Deacon in the Church.

Philo Bates came here at the same time as Deacon William Babcock, and also located the same amount of land in 1835. While they were walking about looking at the land and choosing what they intended to claim, they saw a man looking at the same land. They called to him in a friendly fashion and after finding that he had chosen the same land as they had, they compromised by dividing upon the section line. This man, Mr. Bentley, took the western section, and it was known long after as the Bentley section in Berlin Township. After locating their land Deacon Babcock and Philo Bates returned home and when spring came they

each sent a hired man with his family, teams, etc., to build log houses and commence work. The man sent by Mr. Bates was Amos Bliss, while Mr. Babcock sent Benjamin Brand. Both are now deceased.

In May, 1836, Mr. Bates left his home in New York to look after this land. After he left home his wife Frances B. Bates died June 19, 1836. When he received news of her death in July or August, he was out on the prairie cutting hay, while his household goods were scattered along the line of the lakes from Buffalo to Grand Haven. He returned to New York and September 17, 1836, he married Dollie Babcock, a sister of his second wife, who had been since the death of Mrs. Bates caring tenderly for the infant she had left. Dollie Babcock was born June 21, 1812. After their marriage they went on to Michigan that fall and took possession of their new log house.

William Babcock and wife were the parents of fifteen children, most of whom grew to maturity, five of them being yet living: Herman Babcock; Dollie B., now Mrs. Overhiser, who was the third wife of Philo Bates; Mrs. L. O. Clark; Marcus Babcock; Mrs. Elizabeth Harter. Mr. Babcock was in comfortable circumstances and did not have to endure the privations which made the settlement of the country so full of hardships to many. He used to go to Grand Rapids and New York for supplies. Philo Bates cleared and raised crops on one hundred acres and built the first frame house that was built in this township and let contracts for building a grain barn, also a contract for clearing off forty acres of land. This was all accomplished within two years. Philo Bates died December 20, 1838. He married Susan Watkins December 27, 1818, and by that marriage there were three children, two now living—Harriet A., now Mrs. H. H. Smith of Jackson, Mich.; Orpha E., was the wife of H. B. Lathrop, both now deceased; and Susan C., wife of Charles R. Knickerbocker, of Jackson, Mich. By his second marriage he had three children—George P., deceased; William S., our subject; and Francis B., who died in 1853. By his third marriage he had Philo T., a resident of Ionia. The mother of this youngest son still survives and after the death of Mr. Bates was married to the

Rev. George C. Overhiser, a pioneer minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, afterward connected with the Congregational denomination. He is now deceased. The father of our subject was one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church here. He was also active in the organization of township and county affairs and in politics belonged to the Whig party. His influence was pronounced in all these lines and his opinions bore great weight in the community. He will be long remembered as one of the most prominent men of those early days.

Our subject was born October 4, 1834, in Hope-well Township, Ontario County, N. Y. He was two years of age when brought to Michigan. His childhood was passed with different branches of the family. His father died when he was only four years of age. He lived at different times with his grandfather and uncles, and later with Mrs. H. B. Lathrop, a sister who resided at Jackson, Mich. While with her he attended Union School there for a season. From 1836 to 1847 he attended school during the summer season in the first school established here, the first teacher of which was Harriet A. Bates, now Mrs. H. H. Smith. He began for himself at seventeen years of age, hiring out as a farm hand for \$10 per month in Summit Township, Jackson County. At least he bargained to receive the \$10 but he has never yet collected that just and early debt. He worked in this way until twenty-one years of age, in Jackson, Cass and Monroe Counties. Upon reaching his majority he came back home and took possession of his portion of the estate. He soon after began improving his present property on section 31. It was all in a raw state so he at once built a log house. A fine crayon sketch of which, done by Mrs. Bates, now hangs in his residence. Two hundred acres of this two hundred and thirty acres of land is now under the plow in a high state of cultivation. The land was of the character of heavy oak openings, which he cleared off himself and brought to its present splendid condition. His handsome and tasteful residence was built in 1885. His barns bespeak a first-class farmer. In fact the farm is remarkably well appointed in every respect. He carries on mixed farming and raises wheat, corn and clover and also raises horses, cattle and sheep.

William S. Bates married May 18, 1864, Miss Eliza A. Goodenow, a daughter of Henry and Eliza (Butler) Goodenow, natives of New York. The father was originally of Holland-Dutch descent, and was born June 7, 1799, in Cherry Valley. The Butler brothers were of New England descent. Grandfather Butler was a Captain on a sailing-vessel. His son Charles was the Captain of the first boat to pass through Erie Canal, carrying Gov. De Witt Clinton to Albany. He was also Captain of a company during the War of 1812. Mrs. Bates' parents removed to Michigan in May, 1850, and settled in the township of Grand Blanc, Genesee County. Her uncles, Charles, Moses and John Butler were pioneers of that county and are now all deceased. Mrs. Bates' father died April 6, 1859, and her mother about 1866 came to live with this daughter where she died July 21, 1870, at the age of sixty-seven years. This pioneer couple were the parents of six children, two of whom are now living—Mrs. Bates and Henry B. Goodenow of Flint, Mich.

Mrs. Bates was born August 18, 1834, at Le Roy, Genesee County, N. Y. She received a good common-school education. Mr. and Mrs. Bates are the parents of three children—Frances E., born May 13, 1867; Harry P., February 11, 1870; Harriot G., November 22, 1875. They have all been students in the Ionia City Schools. Mr. and Mrs. Bates are both members of the Presbyterian Church and in the work of which they take an active interest as they do also in the Sunday-school.

The numerous positions of trust and responsibility to which the community has appointed Mr. Bates, shows the estimation in which he is held by them and his magnificent farm and surroundings testify to his success in life. He has been a member of the local School Board. He and his wife were charter members of the Grange and both hold offices therein. He is an active member of the District Agricultural Association. By political preferences he is a Republican. His record as a temperance man is another item in his character.

His brother-in-law, the Hon. Henry B. Lathrop, after the death of his son made his home with our subject from 1882 till 1890, when he died August 20, having been a very prominent man in Michi-

gan politics. The Hon. Mr. Lathrop was a member of the State Pioneer Society, also of the Michigan Legislative Association. In 1844 he was a delegate to the National Convention at Baltimore and in 1840 was a member of the Michigan Assembly and in 1847 of the State Senate. He helped to locate the State Capitol at Lansing, and donated to the State the land upon which the prison is located at Jackson, Mich.



ISAAC E. TYLER is one of the oldest settlers in Orange Township, Ionia County, and one of its original organizers. His pioneer experience was full of interest and exemplified strongly the necessary qualities of early settlers in a new country. His father, Dean M. Tyler, was a Vermont farmer, later in life a mason. His mother Phœbe (Post) Tyler, was a native of the same State. There they were married and resided for a number of years. Then removing to Cayuga County, and later to Livingston County, N. Y.

In 1836 the family started for Michigan, and halted one year in Oakland County before coming on to Ionia County, where they settled in 1837, upon section 13. Taking his farm of perfectly raw land directly from the Government, he set about cultivating it. In 1848 Isaac Tyler had the anguish of witnessing his father killed before his eyes by the falling of a tree, July 13. The widow remained on the farm for about a year, and then went to live with her youngest daughter in whose home she died April 13, 1863. Both she and her husband were members of the Baptist Church before coming West, and in their new home they helped organize the First Baptist Church in Portland, Mr. Tyler officiating in this church in the capacity of Deacon. He was always interested in public affairs, helped to organize Orange Township, and was one of the first Justices of the Peace here. He was born August 12, 1793. His wife was born July 4 of the same year. His parents were Moses and Mehitable (Merrill) Tyler.

The parents of our subject were married in

Whitestown, Oneida County, N. Y., December 25, 1815. Of their seven children, five are now living: Isaac E.; Betsey A., widow of John Brown; Dean M., Jr., who lives in Lapeer County; Laura R., Mrs. Crawford, of Owosso; and Caroline R., now Mrs. Briggs, of Clinton County. Isaac E. was born January 15, 1816 in Oneida County, N. Y. There he received a common-school education, and began work for himself at twenty-one years of age. Coming to Michigan in 1836, he spent two years in Oakland County and came to this county in 1838, settling upon eighty acres of land on section 24. Having built a log house and thus prepared for a home, he returned to Oakland County and married January 5, 1840, Elizabeth Brown, a daughter of Jabez and Ann Brown, pioneers of that region and natives of Yarmouth, England. He lived with this wife upon his eighty acres, clearing and improving it, and establishing a happy home until June 22, 1854. Of their five children four are now living: Amelia J., born September 17, 1840, is the wife of Dr. John Smith, now living in New Decatur, Ala. They have three children. Dr. Smith was a captain in the Civil War in the Ninth Michigan Infantry. Emerson, deceased; Sarah A., born September 9, 1845; Louisa M., born September 21, 1846, is the wife of James Page; they live in Nebraska and have one child. Melvina C., born July 26, 1850, lives in Nebraska with her husband Donald McCelum and her two children.

Mr. Tyler was a second time united in marriage with Mrs. Sarah (Brown) Fields, a sister of his first wife. There were no children as the offspring of this union. She died July 20, 1858. He again married January 1, 1860, Eliza G. Hitchcock, a daughter of Otis and Sarah (Delano) Hitchcock. Mr. Hitchcock was born in Massachusetts, May 9, 1795, and his wife in New York, April 25, 1796. They were married in the Empire State in 1819, in Herrietta, near Rochester, and in 1823 removed to Cattaraugus County, and always resided there upon a farm. He served in the War of 1812, and died June 19, 1873. His wife survived him three years. Of their twelve children seven are now living. Mrs. Tyler was their sixth child, and was born August 11, 1828 at Randolph, N. Y., where she grew to womanhood and was given by her par-

ents a good education. Mr. Hitchcock was a Deacon in the Baptist Church, in the affairs of which both he and his wife were deeply interested. Local schools found in him a warm friend and promoter. Being a pioneer in Cattaraugus County, and a man of pronounced views and life, in temperance and in religion he carried great influence, and was always a prominent man in the neighborhood. He brought up a fine family of children, sending his youngest son into the army during the Civil War. This son, Alvin, died during the war from disease incurred while in the service.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyler have been blessed by the birth of four children: Adeline C., born January 15, 1861, is the wife of John Rossman, and is living in Belding; Otis D., born September 28, 1862, has married Alta Tenney; they live on section 24. William I., born January 31, 1865, is a practicing physician at Niles, Mich.; Mary Elizabeth, born January 22, 1867, was at her death in the freshness of youth, and the center of a large circle of loving friend. She was just entering upon the threshold of young womanhood, crowned with all the graces that well adorned that period of life, and well-fitted in head and heart to take up the duties of life, and discharged them in no ordinary manner. She was graduated from Portland High School in the Class of '85, and was soon employed as teacher in the grammar department until failing health compelled her to give up her chosen and loved profession. She was one of those rare characters whose sweet influence and nobility, coupled with natural and acquired culture and attainments, leaves its impress upon all who come in contact with it. She united with the Baptist Church in February, 1884. Her faith was pure and holy, such as is productive of the works which are an index to the outward world of an inward and spiritual grace. Her influence was of that subtle, magnetic kind, which draws associates to its possessor, and she used this God-given gift to impress upon her young friends the inestimable riches of the grace of her Saviour. The lamp of hope burned brightly and never flickered until within one week of the end, when she realized that her time was near at hand. Then she clearly exemplified the hope within her, and leaving the circle of dear sorrowing friends, entered into the pos-

session of her eternal reward. She sleeps in the cemetery at Portland, but her memory lives in the hearts of all who knew her.

“Blessed is it for her to sleep;
Can it be wrong for us to weep?
We who loved her so well and knew
All the worth of her loving too,
And patience sweet.

“Happy Mary! would that we
Might share the mystery
Of the beyond, where a thought of sin
Never, O never, can enter in
Through eternity.”

Mr. and Mrs. Tyler are both members of the Baptist Church, in which he has been a Deacon for fifty years. They are both deeply interested in Sunday-school work, and are active in this line. The subject of this sketch is one of the two men now living of all those who helped to organize Orange Township. He has for years been a Highway Commissioner and Director of Schools. He now has one hundred and sixty-five acres of land, most which is under cultivation. He carries on the farm work himself, and practices mixed farming. All the buildings have been put up by himself. He has long been a member of the Republican party, and prominent as a temperance man. He joined the first temperance society organized in Livingston County, N. Y., and his wife is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.



MATHIAS BILLINGER, residing on section 14, Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of Austria, the date of his birth being 1858. He is a son of Ignace G. and Anne Billinger, residents of Keene Township. When about thirteen years old he began to serve an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade and after three years of this service he set up for himself. He has a fine shop, located on section 14, Keene Township, which is in a two-story frame building 24x40 feet in dimensions. This house he put up in the spring of 1888, but had carried on the business for some three years previous in a less

commodious establishment. He handles wagon work, horse-shoeing and repairing besides general blacksmithing.

Our subject came from Emmet County, Mich., to Ionia County, in 1883. His wife was Catherine, daughter of Jacob and Apalone (Kuhn) of Keene Township. By their union there have been born two children, Clara, born November 7, 1885, and Joseph, June 17, 1887. Forty acres of excellent land surround the home and shop of our subject. He received an excellent education in Germany and also in this country after coming here. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Billinger, is meeting with good success financially, doing about \$1,000 worth of work each year and is classed among the substantial, honest and intelligent German-American citizens of the township. He is A No. 1 mechanic and his work gives good satisfaction, as his rural neighbors will confidently attest. The lower part of his shop is devoted to the iron and wood-working department and the upper floor is set aside as a paint shop. He enjoys the confidence of the business community and his word is everywhere considered as good as his bond.



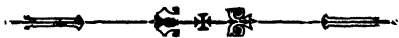
REBUBEN GOULD. It affords the publishers of this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM pleasure to incorporate in its pages an account of the chief incidents in the life of the above-named citizen of Ionia County. He is especially prominent among the agriculturists of Easton Township, having a fine farm on section 2, from the cultivation of which he has a good maintenance. The estate comprises eighty acres of well-tilled land, whereon are to be seen the buildings usually put up by men of enterprise and judgment, and the garden plat and orchards that belong to a really good farm.

The parents of our subject were Samuel and Sallie (Childs) Gould, natives of Connecticut and New York respectively, and the father was a member of the American navy during the War of 1812. Their home was in Orleans County, N. Y., where Reuben was born, August 14, 1829, and when he

was seven years old they migrated to Monroe County, this State. This was in 1836, when that section was comparatively unknown to settlers and was still the haunt of Indians. There he of whom we write remained until 1864, conning his lessons in the district school, and finally learning the trade of wagon and carriage making. The handicraft of Mr. Gould was mastered by him and followed until late in the '70s, he being in business for himself eight years in the city of Ionia. He came to the county in 1864 and about 1878 settled upon his farm.

On December 27, 1865, Mr. Gould was married to Miss Adify Holly, an estimable lady who was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., August 22, 1841, to John and Lucretia (Gibson) Holly. She was bereft of her mother when but six years old. She grew to maturity in her native State and was engaged in teaching for a few years. She is a woman of keen intelligence, generous hospitality and kindness of heart and has made many friends in her Michigan home, as she had in the East. Mr. and Mrs. Gould have four living children—Ellis W., Harry J., Luella E. and Mabel A.—and lost their first born, Elbert C.

In former years Mr. Gould was connected with the Masonic order. His political belief is expressed in the platform of the Republican party, and he is an unflinching supporter of its candidates. His personal character is that of an honest, earnest and energetic man, whose work has been systematically carried on and who received from his acquaintances the meed of respect. In his labors he has been aided by his true-hearted wife, whose counsel and sympathy are appreciated by him, as well as the comforts with which she supplies the home.



OSCAR GOOLTHRITE. This gentleman is owner and occupant of one of the well-developed farms of Montcalm County, pleasantly located in Bloomer Township. The farm consists of one hundred and ninety acres, a large part of which has been cleared by the personal exertions of our subject, who has also removed the

stumps and stones and placed the land under excellent tillage. He has replaced the log buildings that once stood here by substantial frame structures, and has a good bearing orchard, and a sugar grove of five hundred trees, from which fifteen hundred to eighteen hundred pounds of sugar are annually produced. Mr. Goolthrite bought this property in 1875, at which time there was about fifty acres cleared. He completed the work necessary to bring the ground under subjection and within three years had put up a good barn and in 1882 built his present residence.

The parents of our subject were Orin and Susan (Covey) Goolthrite, who were natives of the Empire State, and in St. Lawrence County the son was born March 28, 1829. The father was a farmer and the boyhood of our subject was passed amid the surroundings common to farm-life in any part of the country that is well settled. His education was confined to that which could be obtained in the common schools during the winter months and prior to his sixteenth year. He was away from home most of the time after he was fifteen, working out for his own support. After his marriage, which occurred when he was about twenty-four years old, he established a home, and about four years later he removed to this State.

Mr. Goolthrite located in Hubbardston, Ionia County, and lived there a year and a half engaged in milling. Thence he went to North Plains Center, and turned his attention to farming, and from that point he came to his present location. He has been industrious and hard working, as is shown by his having cleared so much land, and he operates his farm according to approved methods, and keeps upon it good stock.

In March, 1853, Mr. Goolthrite was married to Lenora Townsend and the union resulted in the birth of two children—Byron, born May 13, 1855, and Frances, born January 15, 1860. Both are married and living in homes of their own. Byron wedded Lucy Holmes formerly of Clinton County, and Frances married Eli Boyer. The wife and mother died in May, 1861, and after living a widower until April 5, 1864, Mr. Goolthrite was again married. His present wife is a native of New York and bore the maiden name of Drusilla De Long. They have



William Noah

seven living children and lost one in its infancy. The survivors are Evelyn, born May 10, 1865; James Clinton, November 14, 1867; Clarence E., November 17, 1869; Vernon, May 3, 1870; Joseph, February 28, 1874; Robert, September 12, 1877; Carrie L., January 30, 1881. Eva is now the wife of William Kreighbaum and lives in Clinton County; Eugene married Jennie Finney, and they too live in Clinton County.

In his political views Mr. Goolthrite is a staunch Republican. He takes an active part in educational matters and does all that he can to give his family good advantages. He is not an office seeker, but pursues the even tenor of his way, devoting his attention to the improvement of his own finances, the enjoyment of domestic life, and the social pleasures that all respected citizens enjoy.



WILLIAM NOAH. The life of a farmer, although oftentimes presenting no salient features to the biographical writer, being unmarked by any event differing from those which commonly fall to the lot of mankind, is yet one of interest in its bearing on society, business and morals. No where is there a better field for the exercise of the best qualities of manhood than in agricultural communities, where not only thoughts but deeds are interchanged, and the brotherhood of man is a prominent feature. Among those who in Montcalm County have been worthily filling a place among the farmers is William Noah, whose home is in Sidney Township. His portrait is presented on the opposite page and in the accompanying paragraphs we record for the perusal of the present and future generations the main events in his life.

Mr. Noah was born in Portage County, Ohio, August 14, 1831, and is the son of Joshua V. and Ruth (Fox) Noah. His early life was spent on the farm in Ohio, but he afterward learned the carpenter's trade with his father. His educational advantages were very limited as he was not so situated as to avail himself of anything above the common schools. He came to Montcalm County, Mich., in

1856, and settling in Sidney Township bought his first acre of land. He cleared this of timber and selling the logs got money enough to buy more acres; thus he proceeded, clearing, selling and buying more land until he controlled a large tract. He thus earned his farm without running in debt and preserved himself from the perils which befell so many who had contracted for property upon which they were never able to complete the payments. All the money which he obtained from his lumber he turned into land. His only other means of gaining money was by making shingles; he shaved and hauled them to market, selling them there at the not very profitable price of from seventy-five cents to \$1.75 per thousand. He continued to work in this way during the first ten years of his life in Montcalm County.

The year after he reached his majority and while still residing in Ohio, an event of great importance took place in the life of our subject. December 18, 1853, he was united in marriage with Hannah Goble. She was the mother of nine children: George E., born October 31, 1854; Asher R., November 13, 1855; Ruth, April 18, 1858; Mary M., August 2, 1860; Ellen L., November 11, 1862; Rosa L., May 4, 1868; William U., March 8, 1870; Cora E., January 1, 1873, and Amy B., November 12, 1879. The mother died March 21, 1882, at Sidney Center. Mr. Noah afterward contracted a second marriage August 14, 1883, taking as his wife Rhobie Leonard, of Ohio. No children were born of this marriage.

In the early days of the Civil War Mr. Noah felt that his duty kept him at home, although his patriotic desire led him to join the army. In 1864 he could no longer withstand the pressure of the needs of the country and enlisted in Company D, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, which was recruited in Fairplains Township. He was sent with his company to Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Virginia, and was with Gen. Sherman in his famous march from Atlanta to the sea. The only important engagement in which they took part after the expedition with Gen. Sherman was at Bentonville, in March, 1865, about three weeks before the surrender of Lee. In that battle he was seriously wounded, so that his right arm was necessarily

amputated. He was mustered out of service in Detroit July 18, 1865.

The subject of this sketch has always taken an active part in politics. He was in his early life a Democrat by conviction, but since the war he has belonged to the Republican party. He has held the office of Supervisor for two years and Town Treasurer for ten years and has filled many other lesser offices at various periods. He has been at times engaged in the lumbering business. He is a member of the Congregational Church and his influence and efficiency in that connection are highly prized by his friends and neighbors.



HENRY W. BANCROFT is an old settler in Montcalm County and a war veteran. He holds the position of Postmaster at Vestaburg, and also runs an excellent business in the grocery line. Both his father and grandfather were residents of Saratoga County, and the grandfather was active in the War of 1812. They belonged to a branch of the same family as the historian, George Bancroft. The father of our subject was both teacher and shoemaker. When he taught in the old log schoolhouses he used to keep his kit where he boarded and make shoes in the evenings. He was also master of the cooper's trade. In 1847 he removed to Williams County, Ohio, and began farming. His house was burned and they had a hard time of it. Later he removed to Fulton County, Ohio, where he was elected Township Clerk. He died July 21, 1861. In his religious preferences he was a member of the United Brethren Church and in the days before the war was known as an Abolitionist.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Sarah J. Wilbur. Her father was born in Scotland but coming to America worked on a farm in New York, and in 1847 came to Ohio where he died in 1857. This family were Presbyterians in their belief. The mother still resides in Henry County, Ohio.

Mr. Bancroft is the eldest son of his parents and

was born at Ballston Springs, Saratoga County, N. Y., August 9, 1846. Coming to Ohio when one year old he was reared on a farm and took his course of study in the district schools with a log slab for a desk. He early went to work on the farm and in the saw mills. The family was strong in their Abolition sentiments and he was an ardent advocate of the merits of Abraham Lincoln when first nominated for the Presidency, training with the Wide-Awakes of Toledo, during the campaign.

When only fifteen years old he enlisted in February, 1862, in the Eighty-sixth Infantry, in Company E, which entered the service for one year. He was mustered in at Cleveland and took part in the battles of Wild Cat, Ky., Cumberland Gap, and at Powell's River, at which place he was knocked down by a stroke from a gun stock, and was captured with the rest of his company by rebel soldiers under Longstreet. Fortunately, however, the company was retaken the same day by Union troops. He was, however, laid up by the hurt he received for three weeks, but was out again in time for the Morgan raid, and took part in the battle of Eaglesport.

Our young hero was mustered out of service with an honorable discharge in February, 1863, at Columbus, Ohio. He remained at home until August, 1863, when he again enlisted in Company K, Sixty-Sixth Ohio Infantry. He took part in the battle of Chattanooga. During the Georgia Campaign he went to Atlanta, then joined in the march to the sea and afterward returned to Raleigh, N. C. He was also in the battles of Goldsboro and Bentonville. He took part in the Grand Review at Washington and was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, June, 1865. During the war his foot was crushed by a cannon running over it. His clothes and hat have many times been pierced with bullets, but he was spared.

When released from military service Mr. Bancroft went into the employ of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, but in 1869 he left them for the Ft. Wayne & Jackson Road, with whom he remained until the death of his wife. He then decided to go West and in 1871 he visited Nebraska. In 1872 he came to Michigan and located at Coral, this county, and was employed in a

mill. In 1873 he went back to Ohio where he was married again and came to Eureka Township, Montcalm County, and located on forty acres on section 10. In 1880 he sold this farm and removed to Neligh, Antelope County, Neb., where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and tree claimed one hundred and sixty. He remained six months and not wishing to be longer detained there he sold his claims and returned to Michigan where he engaged in farming and in dealing in land until April 14, 1889, when he was appointed Postmaster. He then started a grocery and provision line and is doing a successful business. His first marriage took place in Green Springs, Ohio. He was then united with Elizabeth Sheer. She died in Indiana leaving two children—Dora and Caroline. His second wife who bore the name of Emeline Guyman, and to whom he was united in Fulton County, Ohio, in 1873, was the mother of two children—Edna and Thurza. Mr. Bancroft has been Commissioner of Highways for three years, a member of the School Board for two years; and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of The Maccabees. His wife is a warm-hearted Christian and a communicant of the Baptist Church. Mr. Bancroft is proud to say that he votes the way he shot, for the Republican party.



JOHAN W. KIRTLAND, M. D., of Lake View, Montcalm County, was born in Lodi, Tompkins County, N. Y., December 5, 1845. He is a son of Horace L. and Sarah E. (Jewell) Kirtland, natives of Connecticut and Vermont respectively. They were married in Chenango County, N. Y., but later took up their residence in Tompkins County, and in the fall of 1856 removed to Springport, Jackson County, Mich. Here they lived until the fall of 1864, at which time they removed to Calhoun County. There Mrs. Kirtland died, and the father is now living in Lake View with our subject. He was a farmer all his life until of late years. His departed wife was a member of the Presbyterian Church, but he has been a member and Class-Leader in the Methodist Episcopal

Church for many years. He is a Democrat in politics. He has been the father of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest.

Dr. Kirtland's early years were spent on the farm in Jackson and Calhoun Counties, Mich. Here he received a common-school education. In the fall of 1861 he began reading medicine with Drs. Bristol and Bucknum, of Parma, Jackson County. Subsequently he took a course in and was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago. He took his diploma in 1867, and at once located at Hillsdale. Here he practiced for one year and then engaged in the mercantile business in Battle Creek. He continued there until 1878 when he came to Lake View, where he has since that time been engaged in the practice of his profession. He has also carried on the drug business, being the proprietor of the Central drug store. He is one of the leading practitioners of Montcalm County. In 1884 he took a special course of lectures at Hahnemann College.

This gentleman has taken the Knight Templar degree in masonry, and is connected with both the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Maccabees. He votes with the Democratic party. He has held most of the village offices and is now President of the Village Board of Education. His marriage with Sarah E., daughter of Addison and Sarah S. Comstock, of Adrian, Mich., has been a happy one. They were united January 8, 1868, and have been blessed with four children, namely: Ednah A., Addison L., W. Deane and John W. Dr. Kirtland started in life empty handed, and has acquired a fine property and a comfortable independence by push and economy.



WINFIELD S. BARNARD. A cursory view of the streets of Lyons, Ionia County, is sufficient to indicate the thrift and energy of its business men, and denote quite plainly the relative merits of their establishments. The orderly arrangement of goods, the neatness of the premises and the air of bustle and stir that characterize some of them are sure indications of pros-

perity and financial skill, while the opposite is true of other places. The subject of this biographical notice is at the head of an establishment where clocks, watches, jewelry, stationery, books and notions are sold. His home and store are in a substantial building erected by him on the corner of South Bridge and St. John Streets, the structure being 20x70, well arranged and fitted up.

The parents of Mr. Barnard were Samuel and Eveline (Kilbourn) Barnard, natives of Jefferson County, N. Y., their birthplaces being North Adams and Lafargeville. The father was a harnessmaker, and at his trade he worked until long after he came to Michigan. He removed in 1845 and first located in Almont, Lapeer County, later making his home at Campbell's Corners, Oakland County. In 1855 he came to Ionia County and settled in the county seat, but from it went to Lowell, Kent County, and thence to Frankford, Benzie County. At that place he engaged in the grocery business, and in the same he was busied at Sherman, Wexford County, a little later. At the latter place he also sold jewelry, and that was his permanent residence, his death taking place there in 1884. The widowed mother now lives with her children, of whom three are living: James, Winfield S. and Martin W. Caroline, formerly Mrs. Beck, died in 1872.

In Jefferson County, N. Y., July 4, 1839, the subject of this sketch was born. He received his education principally at Lowell, this State, and when of proper age learned the trade of a harnessmaker with his father. He came to Lyons in 1860 and carried on business six years, buying a shop on Main Street, but finally selling it and going to Wisconsin, where he remained a year. He then returned to Lyons and began the sale of books and stationery in connection with newspapers and periodicals, at length adding jewelry and other articles to his stock in trade. He is reaping a due reward for his efforts in business, and is numbered among the prominent men of the place. The marriage of Mr. Barnard and Miss Lydia Coon, daughter of Abel and Maria (Withey) Coon, natives of New York, took place in Lyons, Ohio, October 30, 1865. The father of Mrs. Barnard was born in Saratoga County, in 1789, and died in Lyons, this

State, in 1870. He had been engaged in farming in Allegany County, N. Y., until quite middle-aged and he then came West. Mrs. Coon died in 1834; she was born in Bethany, Genesee County. Of the seven children born to the good couple the only survivors are: Mrs. Barnard; and Mrs. Alfred Bracy, of Clare County.

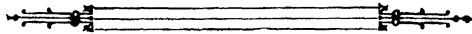
Mr. Barnard is a believer in the political principles advanced by the Republican party, and deposits a corresponding ballot on every election day. Of the social orders he is identified with the Royal Templars. He and his estimable wife have many friends in and about their adopted town and their reputation is excellent.



HENRY J. CHENEY is one of the live men of the town of Ionia, Ionia County, and one of its very best citizens. He was born in Genesee County, N. Y., February 24, 1832, and is a son of Elisha P. and Fanny (Pierson) Cheney, natives of New York. Elijah Cheney, the grandfather of our subject, was living in Genesee County, N. Y., when the War of 1812 was declared, and served in the army during that time. In 1874 Elisha P. Cheney and his wife came to Michigan and located in Easton Township. Of their nine children six are now living: Orson lives at Ludington, Mich., and carries on farming; Uz is living in Iowa; Jane, the wife of Harvey Rice, lives at Stanton, Montcalm County; Ann is at home; Mercy, the widow of James McCue, resides at Burlington, Iowa.

Henry J. Cheney was reared to farming pursuits, in which he continued until 1880. His first farm was in Montcalm County. This he opened up when a young man. He married Jane Hubbell, a daughter of Alonzo Hubbell, January 9, 1858. He was taken with the Western fever, and in 1860 went to California and for three and one-half years engaged quite successfully in mining. He, however, became satisfied that Michigan was the best home for him, and returning, he bought a farm in Easton Township, which he carried on for eleven years. He then purchased in Ionia Township, a farm which he

still owns. He lived in Edmore for one year when it was just started, and kept a boarding house. This house he exchanged for property in Ionia, and during the year he did well and cleared his property, by trading and sale of town lots, being very successful in the real estate business. In 1880, he entered into a business connection with his brother-in-law, Henry F. Hubbell, with whom he has ever since been engaged in handling agricultural machinery. He is a Deacon in the Church of Christ, with which he united in 1864. He does his full share toward the maintenance and prosecution of church work, being one of its most liberal members. He is a Republican in politics, and one who uses his influence in the community to elevate its standard in every way. He is full of good works, giving largely in the direction of many charities.



STEPHEN HAIGHT. One who wished to be thoroughly informed regarding the experiences of those who established their homes in an almost trackless wilderness and, far from friends or neighbors, took up the work of reclaiming wild land and fitting it for the abode of civilized man, could have their questions well answered by Stephen Haight. He has lived in Ionia County since 1841, when a lad of ten years he accompanied his parents hither. Odessa Township was but a wilderness then, roamed over by wild animals and savage looking Indians. It has fallen to the lot of our subject to see the country transformed into a region where fertile farms, comfortable dwellings, substantial schoolhouses and churches are almost innumerable, and thriving villages are counted by the score. He has aided in bringing about this result, and is now taking part in the progress of Lake Odessa.

The parents of Stephen Haight were Reuben and Sally A. (Hight) Haight. The father was born in Pennsylvania and was of German descent. The mother was a native of New York and descended from an English family. They lived in Steuben County, N. Y., a number of years and left their farm there to establish a home in this State in

1834. They bought land in Livingston County, remaining there until 1841, and during the period of their residence Mr. Haight cleared quite an acreage. Thence he came to Ionia County and bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 35, Odessa Township. There were but two or three families in the township, and he was obliged to go twelve miles for help to raise his log house, the country was so thinly settled. The money expended on the dwelling did not exceed \$2, and the items for which this was spent was two sawed boards, two pounds of nails and glass for two small windows.

As soon as his family had taken possession of the rude dwelling Mr. Haight began the arduous task of chopping and logging. He had brought six sheep with him and he was obliged to build a high-fence pen close to the house in order to keep the wolves from devouring them. The fleece from these sheep was made into Sunday clothes for the family each year, the various processes by which wool became cloth being performed by the mother. The house was for a long time used for religious services, the people coming with ox-teams and sleds, even in the summer, there being no wagons in the country. Distance proved no impediment to the pioneers, as they were glad to meet their friends and enjoy worship together.

One cold wintry night about nine o'clock an Indian came to Mr. Haight's door with such clothing as he wore torn in shreds, and nothing left of his gun but the barrel. He had had a hard fight with a bear, such animals and wolves also being numerous, and the latter making night hideous with their howls. The nearest store was at Hastings, in Barry County, seventeen miles distant from Mr. Haight's dwelling. He worked hard and succeeded in clearing and improving about ninety acres of land ere he was compelled to cease from toil. In 1861 consumption laid him low, and in December, 1862, he was called to his final rest. He had gotten his farm well stocked, having among other animals a large flock of sheep. He and his wife, who had preceded him to the better land about ten years, belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had seven children, three of whom still live: Amanda, wife of Milo Wheeler, living in Hastings, Barry County; Stephen, our subject; David, a resident of

Woodland Center, Barry County. Two of the deceased—William N. and Harvey—died in the army.

The birthplace of Stephen Haight was Steuben County, N. Y., and his natal day February 8, 1831. He was three years old when his parents came to this State, and in Livingston County he acquired a limited education in the log schoolhouse of the district. After his parents came to Ionia County he aided his father more and more each year as he grew to manhood. When of age he went to Portland and hired out with a carpenter and joiner for a year in order to learn the trade. When the time had expired he came to Odessa Township and entered the employ of E. Cramer, with whom he worked three years. He then followed the trade for himself in the surrounding country until 1864, when he enlisted in Company E, Third Michigan Infantry, and served fourteen months. During that time he took part in a five days' engagement at Decatur, Ala., and the second battle at Stone River. Being taken sick he was sent to Cumberland Hospital, at Nashville, where he remained about two months and then came home on a thirty days' furlough. He was ordered to report at Detroit, where he was honorably discharged October 6, 1865.

Mr. Haight was living in Woodland Center, Barry County, when he enlisted, and thither he returned and took up the implements of his trade. Through exposure while in the army he had contracted the rheumatism, which soon incapacitated him for carpenter's work, and he therefore built a shop and began making coffins. It had been the custom to order them as they were needed, but he made them in advance. It may be of interest to some of our readers to give this incident as an example of the customs of the early days. The first coffin made by Mr. Haight was ordered for a man who had fallen from a scaffold and broken his neck. Black walnut boards were nailed together, and when the rough box was finished it was taken by Mr. Haight to the house, the corpse placed within and the lid nailed on.

Mr. Haight has followed undertaking since that time in Woodland Center, where he still owns an establishment. In 1884 he came to Saranac and bought a store which, in 1886, he disposed of to

resume the care of his place at Woodland. After two years longer in that town he left his brother in charge of the establishment and came to Lake Odessa, which was just starting into life and which was a convenient locality for him, as his trade was largely in this section. Here he formed a partnership with George A. Weed and put up the first store building in the village, filling it with a stock of furniture and undertaking goods. In the spring of 1890 he sold out his interest in the furniture department and assumed entire control of the other.

When Mr. Haight was twelve years old he killed his first deer, and from that time to the present he has found great enjoyment in hunting. For more than a score of years he has been in the habit of taking a trip to the North where hunting is better than in this well-settled region. He has killed deer on the site of the village in which he lives. Politically Mr. Haight is a Democrat, and socially a member of the Masonic lodge and Grand Army post. He has been Justice of the Peace about fourteen years, and Road Commissioner several times, and is at present Township Treasurer. For his personal worth and the interest he has shown in the welfare of his fellow-men he is held in good repute.

The marriage of Stephen Haight and Margaret M. George was solemnized December 25, 1861. To them were born two children, one of whom is now living, namely, Dora B., wife of Otis Miner. Mrs. Haight is a woman of great kindness of heart, efficient in household affairs, and well esteemed by her acquaintances.



DAVID W. MYERS is the prosperous owner of a fine farm and a beautiful home on section 27, North Plains Township, Ionia County. His birthplace was in Perry Township, Wyoming County, N. Y., and he first saw the light August 25, 1832. His father, James Myers, a native of New York, and a farmer by occupation was born in 1789. He was twice married, this son being the second child of the second union. His first marriage which took place February 24, 1807, was with Mary DeWitt. To this mother were

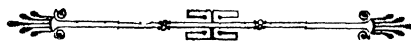
born seven children, four daughters and three sons. She was called from earth August 16, 1828. James Myers was again married September 20, 1829. This wife, who is the mother of our subject, bore the maiden name of Huldah Wallace. She was born in New York State April 28, 1798, and was the mother of four children, two daughters and two sons.

The first schooling of young David was in his native place. The district school was supplemented by the Perry Academy in Perry Village. After he had finally crossed the threshold of the schoolroom he engaged in farming in his native State until 1859, when he came to Michigan, and located where he now resides, building a log house and going to housekeeping with his married sister at the head of his household affairs. But in 1862 he decided to establish his own real home, and on June 22 he was united in marriage to Mary A. Macomber, a lady who was born in Livingston County, N. Y. in 1835. Their only child Rhyan, was taken from them in early infancy, and the young mother soon followed her little son to the other world.

The second marriage of our subject took place June 29, 1867, and he chose his wife from the same family as before. His bride was Rebecca J., a sister of his first wife, who was born in New York in 1839, and came to Michigan when a young girl of fourteen years. Four children were sent to this happy home: Grace (deceased), Dean W., Ralph M. and Blanche E.

Mr. Myers carries on a general farming business, and has two hundred and twenty acres of excellent land in a fine condition. His present residence was erected in 1885, at a cost of \$3,000. This handsome two-story house will always be an elegant reminder of the primeval forests of Michigan, as it is all built from wood cut on the farm, the inside work being highly finished in the natural wood, and an example of the beauties of the lumber of Michigan. The first vote of this intelligent citizen of Ionia County, was cast for John C. Fremont, and he has always continued to vote the Republican ticket until within the last six years. In 1884 his interest in the temperance question led him to join the Prohibition party. He voted for St. John and was himself a candidate on the Prohibition ticket for State Representative in 1888. He is an

earnest and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a Trustee in the North Plains Union Church. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and is always a great worker in church matters, being a liberal contributor to all worthy objects.



ANDREW J. GREENHOE is one of the residents of Evergreen Township, Montcalm County, who have made their way up, step by step, from poverty and hardship to prosperity and honor. He was born in Summit County, Ohio, December 17, 1839, and is the son of John and Nancy (Wheeler) Greenhoe. When a little child of less than four years old he was deprived of a mother's care and his boyhood was saddened by this affliction. His father emigrated to Michigan when this son was about sixteen years of age, and they settled in Ionia County. He took advantage of what few educational opportunities came in his way, but found them scanty and poor. The home farm in Ionia County was hewed out of the forest. The father removed to Montcalm County in 1871, his son, our subject, having made his home here since the beginning of 1867.

August 13, 1861, saw this young man an enlisted soldier in Company B., Sixteenth Michigan Infantry. He served in the army of the Potomac under Gens. McClellan and Grant. The principal engagements in which he took part were the seven days on the Peninsula and the Wilderness and the battles of Petersburg, Gettysburg and Fredericksburg. He was with Grant at the time of Lee's surrender. He was mustered out of service with an honorable discharge at Jeffersonville, Ind., July 8, 1865. Throughout all the war he escaped a scar.

Mr. Greenhoe has always been a Democrat, and was such all through the war, being known by the term so well understood in those days, a War Democrat. He went into the army as a private and came out as a commissioned officer, a Lieutenant, having made his way, step by step, by virtue

of his faithfulness and bravery. He is a member of the Church of the United Brethren. He has held the offices of Clerk and Treasurer of the County for some time. His marriage, April 2, 1865, united him with Sophia Eavey, of Montcalm County. They became the happy parents of two children: Alice M., born July 5, 1866, and Grace T., November 27, 1875. Alice is now the wife of Westly Greenhoe, of this county. Our subject belongs to Tom Custer Post, No. 178, at Sheridan.



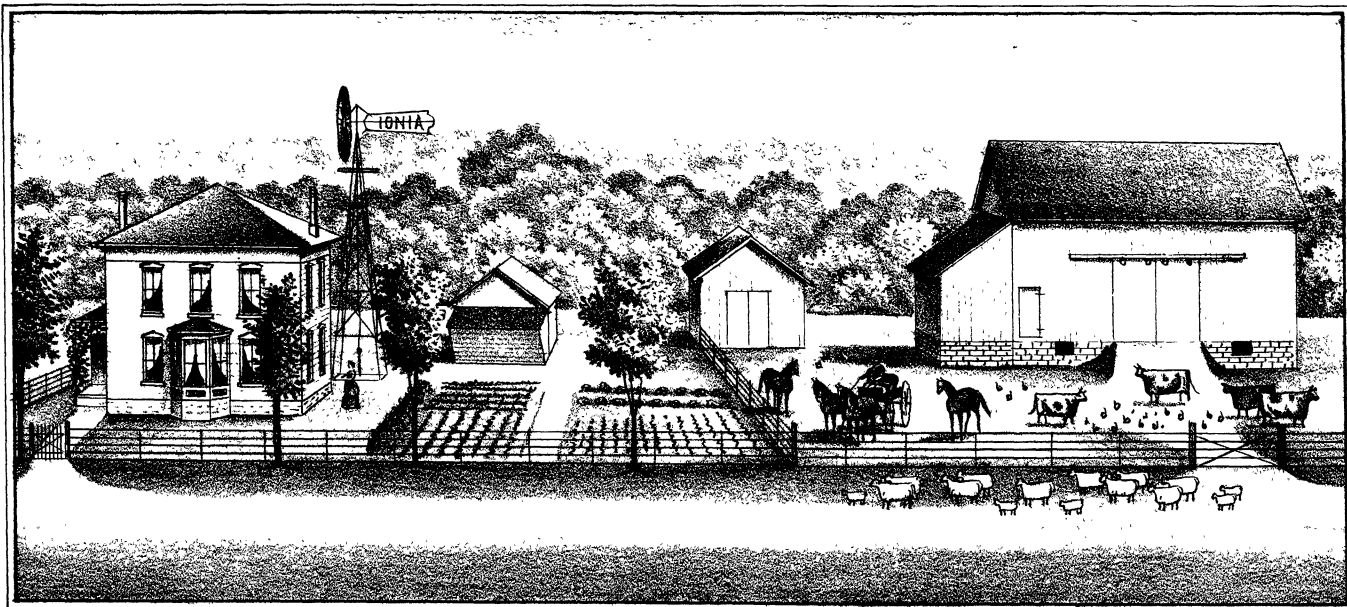
WILLIAM H. HOWARD, a native of Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., is descended from good old British stock. His father, Joseph Howard, a native of Buckinghamshire, England, was born in 1813, and was a workman in a papermill. About 1833 he came to America, spending a short time in Canada, then sojourning for three years in Rochester, N. Y., but afterward making his permanent home in Avon. His wife, Janetta (Giles) Howard, was a native of Bath, England, and was born in 1805. She came to America on the same ship with her future husband and they were married during their residence in Canada. In July, 1842, the family left their New York home for Michigan, and settled on section 35, Berlin Township, Ionia County.

The story of their removal is like many another record of those early days. The household goods and the family were loaded in one wagon and came from Detroit by wheel, being over a week making the trip from that village to Ionia County. Almost all the way their rough corduroy road lay through dense woods. The father had secured eighty acres of wild land, and for this he owed fully one-half. He did not believe in beginning life in this new country in debt, and soon induced the man of whom he had purchased to take back half the land thus relieving him from debt, and leaving him the proud possessor of an unincumbered farm and \$2 in cash. He was totally unused to the work of clearing and farming in a rough country, for this was very different from the agricultural work in Livingston County, N. Y. A small man in stature,

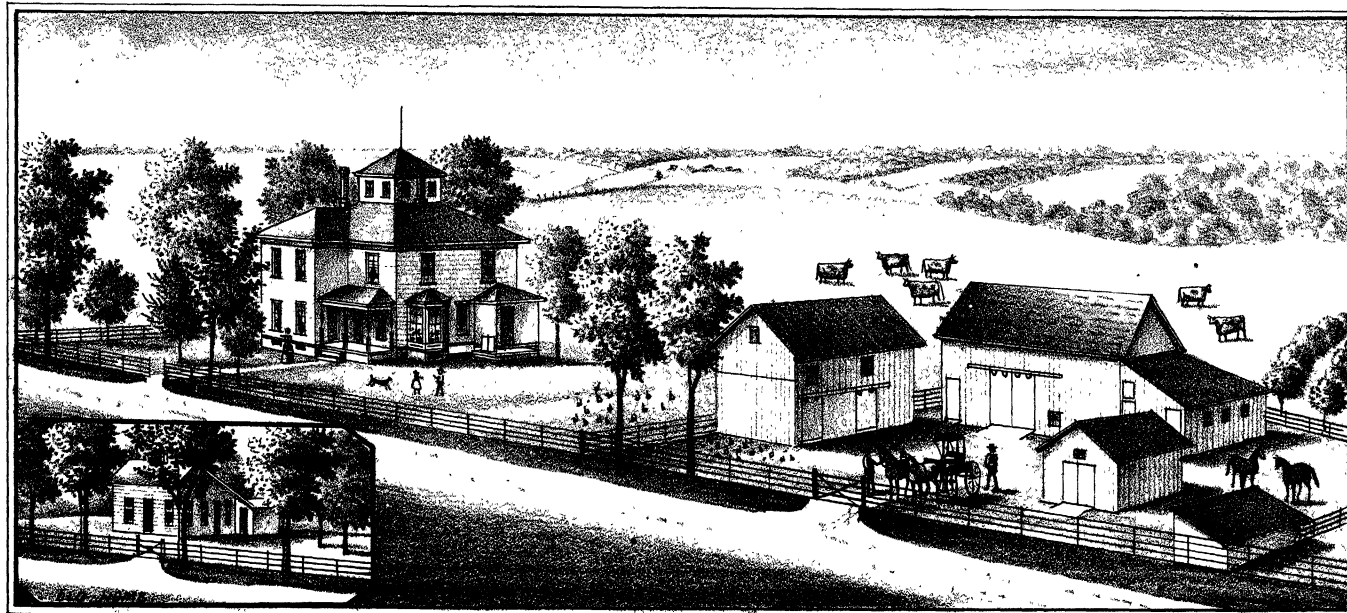
he was nevertheless exceedingly energetic, but notwithstanding both these qualifications the ague put in a good work with him. During the first year of his residence in his log shanty, he made seventeen pounds of sugar, which was all the sugar the family had that year. To gain this amount of sweetness he carried maple sap in a bucket from his trees to his house, eighty rods and boiled it down.

In the spring of 1845 he had a cow but no feed for it. He took a bag and crossed the river to where the prison now stands, to get some rutabagas from a man who had left some in the ground the fall before. Mr. Howard dug through three feet of snow and found the roots all decayed. He was not to be thus thwarted, so he went to the man's house and begged from him enough hay to fill his sack. Imagine his distress and disappointment when upon reaching home he found his cow was dead. But he skinned her and sold her hide to procure provisions for his family. He was driven to such extremities to provide food for his family that at one time he took a bushel of millet across the river to the mill. In returning home his team backed off into the river and his sack of ground millet went to the bottom. Fortunately he had with him a rake and a vigorous notion of using it. He hooked up the bag of millet, landed it in his wagon and took it home. The unfortunate family were obliged to make use of the meal, notwithstanding its soaking.

Besides the forty acres which he cleared for himself, Mr. Howard logged forty acres for Lucius Babcock, cleared twenty acres for his neighbor Fuller, and underbrushed ten acres for Alonzo Sessions. He also added building to his industries, erecting both a log and a frame house. He believed in raising fruit and planted six hundred trees in an orchard. He added to his farm and had one hundred acres all in a good state of cultivation before he died. He lost his first wife, April 19, 1871, and was again married in New York State, where he spent his closing years and died in June, 1889. He and his wives were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the affairs of which he always took great interest, filling the office of Steward and also of Class-Leader. He was active in Sunday-school work, being a teacher



RESIDENCE OF A. J. RING, SEC. 6. KEENE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF W. H. HOWARD, SEC. 35. BERLIN TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

and taking his children to Ionia every Sunday to Sunday-school, although the walk was quite a long one. In local politics he took a great interest, always voting the Republican ticket, and for years he was a member of the School Board in this district. His influence and example were always for temperance in all things.

The mother of our subject deserves great credit for the part she took in assisting her husband during the trying days of their early settlement in Michigan. She is remembered by many for her kindness to the sick in the neighborhood and was mourned by all when called to her final home. Mr. and Mrs. Howard were the parents of three children—Joseph B., Sarah E., now Mrs. William Kneale, and William H. The last named and youngest child, being born November 12, 1841, was about eight months old when his parents came to Michigan. He grew to manhood amid the hardships and experiences of frontier life, being familiar from infancy with the many Indians who were in the neighborhood. He saw this section in its wildest state and has watched with interest its development into its present highly cultured condition. His schooling was in the log schoolhouse in the oldest school district in the township and later he attended the Ionia schools. All these experiences had their influence upon him, leading him to become a man of self-reliance, independence, and intelligence. He stayed at home and helped his father until his marriage.

Upon July 26, 1871, he was united in marriage with Helen L. Butler, a daughter of Bennajah R. and Mariette (Washburn) Butler. She was a native of Connecticut and he of New York. They were married in Ohio in 1842 and resided there until they came to Michigan in 1849, and there they settled in Cascade Township, Kent County, upon a wild piece of land. This they improved for eighteen years and then sold. They both died in the year 1889. They were the parents of three children—Mary J., born January 18, 1843, is deceased; Helen L., born February 22, 1845, is now Mrs. Howard; Betsey P., born April 24, 1847. These all received at the hands of their parents a good education and have all of them been in turn school-teachers of superior ability and successful experi-

ence. Mrs. Butler had been a school-teacher in her youth. The father was a soldier in Company M, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. He served eighteen months, after which he was so seriously injured as to receive an honorable discharge. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which the father had been a Class-Leader. He was in politics a strong Republican.

After marriage the subject of this sketch settled upon his home farm on section 35, where he has ever since lived. He now has one hundred and seven acres, one hundred of which is under the plow. He carries on mixed farming. On another page appears a view of his present residence which was built last summer. He and his estimable wife have become the parents of seven children, six of whom are now living—Burton J., born September 17, 1872; Clara M., October 19, 1874; Janetta E., November 20, 1876; Fred B., September 1, 1879; Hattie E. and Harry E. (twins) were born July 14, 1882. The second of these twins died August 16, of the same year. Perry E., was born March 3, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Howard are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Ionia in which he is Steward. They are both deeply interested in the Sunday-school, in which he is a teacher having charge of the senior Bible class. Mrs. Howard taught sixteen terms, part of it in a graded school. At their own home they prepare children for entrance to the Ionia schools. Mr. Howard has been School Inspector, and takes a deep interest in politics, voting the Republican ticket. He is strictly temperate never having drunk liquor and sympathizes earnestly with the temperance movement.



ARMON J. RING, a representative farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 6, Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where he was born March 15, 1841. He is the son of William and Rhoda (Daniels) Ring, both New Yorkers, and the former was a soldier in the War of 1812. In 1850, our subject then a boy, migrated with his father's family to Ionia County, traveling with

horses in a prairie schooner the entire distance over mud roads and corduroy highways, camping out at night in the wagon.

Three of the five children born to William and Rhoda Ring, are now living, namely: Edward, who resides in Kent County, Mich.; Cyrus J., of Otisco Township; and our subject. The father upon arriving in Michigan, settled upon the farm where our subject now resides. He was one of the very earliest settlers, and but little clearing had been done here at the time. He found an old cabin partly frame and partly log, about 14x18 feet in size. Here they resided for several years until they could build a better residence. The second home was destroyed by fire. The father departed this life September 18, 1886, aged ninety years and eighteen days, having been bereaved of his wife in August, 1863. In his death the county lost one of her best citizens and most worthy pioneers; the Baptist Church one of its most earnest and conscientious members, and the Democratic party an ardent advocate of its principles.

Armon J. Ring saw much pioneer work in his boyhood. He knows what it is to clear the forest and break sod behind a yoke of oxen. The district school and farm work with occasional pioneer frolics filled out his boyhood days. Scarcely had he attained his majority when he responded to the call of his country, and enlisted August 11, 1862, in Company B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry. His regiment became a part of Sherman's army, and participated in the following conflicts: Mumfordsville, Tebb's Bend, Kingston, Mossy Creek, Tunnel Hill, Rocky Face, Resaca, Cassville, Etowah, Altoona, Pine Mountain, Lost Mountain, Culp's Farm, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack Creek, Chattahooche River, Decatur, siege of Atlanta, East Point, Eutaw Creek, Jonesboro, Cedar Bluff, Pine Creek, Franklin, and the siege and battle of Nashville. He afterward joined Sherman's command at Goldsboro, and was with him until the war closed. He received his honorable discharge July 2, 1865.

Our subject now returned to Michigan and resumed the avocations of peace. He began to realize that he ought to establish his own home, and it was not long before he had chosen a wife to whom he was married October 22, 1868. His bride was

Clintha, daughter of Austin and Caroline (Sanders) Keeney, both natives of New York. Mrs. Ring was born January 27, 1846, in Kent County, Mich. Her grandfather Keeney was a soldier in the War of 1812. Her parents were early pioneers in Kent County. Of their eight children but five survive, namely: Mrs. Ring; Helen, wife of C. Trumbull, of Osceola, Mich.; Mina, Mrs. Clark Hoppough of Ionia County; Carrie, Mrs. A. Richardson, of Kent County; and Clay, who resides in the same county.

Two sons have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ring: George, born October 29, 1871; and Ray B., July 3, 1876. The farm of one hundred and ten acres is in a fine state of cultivation, and a view of its principal buildings appears on another page. Mr. Ring is a member of the Dan S. Root, G. A. R. Post, No. 126 at Belding, and he and his wife are active members of society. He is a Republican in politics, and is identified with the Masonic order. He has served on the School Board of his district in various capacities. It is with no small degree of pleasure that we represent the subject of this sketch among the many progressive citizens and prosperous farmers of Ionia County.



ELIOTT F. GRABILL. The Greenville "*Independent*" is one of the well-known newspapers of Montcalm County and has a name in all Central Michigan. It has been in charge of the subject of this biographical notice since February, 1866, and the long continuance of Mr. Grabill as its editor and proprietor affords conclusive proof of its being on a paying basis. It is well understood among newspaper men that a peculiar tact and energy is required in carrying on a local sheet, and he who succeeds in such an enterprise soon becomes known as a man of ability and wields a corresponding influence. Mr. Grabill has a paper that speaks for itself to all who see an issue, and he has filled some important stations in the management of affairs in which the public are interested.

In the paternal line Mr. Grabill traces his ancestry back to Switzerland, where his grandfather,

Philip Grabill, was born. That gentleman was a farmer and at the same occupation his son Nimrod, father of our subject, busied himself during part of his life. The latter also devoted some time to school teaching and for several years was a merchant in Pennsylvania, whither he went in early life. There he married Zeruah, daughter of Samuel and Polly Roberts of the Keystone State. In 1854 he removed to Iowa, settling at Corydon, where he was engaged in the insurance business until death. He passed away in 1884. The mother of our subject died many years before, the date of her decease being 1845. The family consisted of six children, but Elliott F. and Ethelbert H., are the only survivors.

Mr. Grabill, the subject of this sketch, was born in Washington County, Pa., June 16, 1837, and received a common-school education there. He learned the printing trade at Brownsville, Pa. He next became a student in the Oberlin (Ohio) College, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He secured the means to go through college by his own efforts, working at the printer's trade and teaching school during vacation time. When the war broke out he was thrilled with the spirit of fervid patriotism which swept like a tidal wave over the North, and April 19, 1861, he enlisted with a company of students in Oberlin College. They were mustered into the Seventh Ohio Infantry and Mr. Grabill served until the war closed, although not in the same regiment during the entire time.

In 1863 Mr. Grabill was examined before Gen. Casey's board for a position at the head of a body of colored troops, that branch of the service being then in process of organization. November 5, of that year he was commissioned First Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Fifth United States Colored Troops, with which regiment he remained until October 4, 1865. During the time he was promoted to a Captaincy and breveted Major for meritorious conduct. He served under Gens. Rosecrans and Banks, in the Shenandoah Valley, in the Army of the Potomac under the different commanders from McClellan to Grant, and in the North Carolina campaign of Schofield. It was his fortune to take part in several of the most important battles

of the war as well as those of minor note, the chief being Winchester, Port Republic, Antietam, the second Bull Run, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, siege of Petersburg and Richmond, Ft. Fisher.

The interesting ceremony that converted Miss Anna S. Jenney into Mrs. Grabill took place March 8, 1865. The bride was born in Greenwich, Huron County, Ohio, being a daughter of Benjamin and Anna M. (Birdsall) Jenney, natives of Massachusetts and New York, respectively. She is the elder of their two living children. Her mother died in Greenville in 1888, and her father resides here, but was formerly engaged in farming. Mrs. Grabill is intelligent and well-read, social and charitable, and counts her friends among the best people of the place. She is the mother of three living children—Clara E., Carl E., and Ethel V., and her first born Florence, died at the age of eight years.

In his political beliefs Mr. Grabill coincides with the Republican party and his influence is thrown in with it. He belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and to the Grand Army of the Republic, his post being William A. Kent, No. 83. Twice he has been Postmaster in Greenville and is now holding the office again. In 1888 he was one of the State Electors, whose province it was to voice the people's wish for Harrison to be their President, and on other occasions he has taken a conspicuous part in carrying out the desires of his fellow-men for improvements or reforms. He was formerly a member of the Board of Managers of the Michigan Soldiers' Home at Grand Rapids. The personal character of Mr. Grabill is such as to secure the respect of his acquaintances and his mental power is recognized by all who read his editorials or hear his conversation.



ISAAC B. GUNN. Among the men now living in Ionia County whose lives present examples worthy of emulation, in that they have been characterized by integrity, industry and determination, may be mentioned Isaac Gunn, a prominent resident of Easton Township. He was born in

Geneva, N. Y., August 31, 1821, his parents being Isaac and Huldah (Riggs) Gunn, natives of Connecticut. Josiah Gunn, grandfather of our subject, was born in England and emigrated to this country, where he spent his last days. His maternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812. He is one of four surviving children born to his parents, the others being William S., who is at the head of the Gunn Hardware Company at Grand Rapids; Nancy, wife of Josiah White, of Chicago, Ill.; and Schuyler, who likewise resides in the Garden City.

Mr. Gunn grew to manhood in his native State, beginning his education in the common schools and continuing it by personal investigation and reading in later years. In his earlier life he worked at various occupations, following carpentry for a number of years, but for the last twenty he has given his attention exclusively to farming. In his efforts to build up his fortune and surround himself with comforts he has been ably seconded by the lady who became his wife January 6, 1842. His industry and good judgment and the value of her counsel and prudence in household affairs is attested by their present standing among the property owners of Ionia County. They came to this State in 1844 and spent two years in Ottawa County, then removed to Grand Rapids, and then removed to Iowa, where they spent six years, and then again took up their residence in Grand Rapids, and thence came to Ionia County in 1868. When they arrived in the State their cash capital consisted of \$2.50, and with that small amount they made a beginning in the West. When they came to Ionia County eighty-two acres of land were bought, thirty of which were partially cleared. This was further improved and about thirty-five acres added to the cleared tract by Mr. Gunn. He built his present fine residence in 1880, doing nearly all the wood-work himself.

Mrs. Gunn bore the maiden name of Olive Ellis. She was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., August 4, 1826, and is one of the three surviving children of Lyman and Watie (Randall) Ellis. The others are Walter Alphonso and Emily, wife of Willard Mitchell. Mrs. Gunn was well reared and given instruction in those domestic arts by

which she was qualified to aid her husband in her mature years. To them have been born three children—Laura, wife of Scott Garrett, now living in Colorado, and is the mother of nine children; Melissa, wife of C. M. Linington, proprietor of an extensive mercantile establishment in Chicago; they have two children; and Albert, who is in the mercantile business in Shelby, this State, married Alice Jackson, of Lowell, Mich. In addition to the grandchildren Mr. and Mrs. Gunn have one great-grandchild.

Much pains have been taken by Mr. and Mrs. Gunn to educate their children and fit them for useful and honorable positions in society. They themselves show an interest in all that is for the good of the section in which they have made their home, and take part in various enterprises which point toward that end. They belong to a grange in Keene Township and have held offices therein. Mr. Gunn is a member of the Democratic party. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and it is their constant aim to govern their lives by the principles of Christianity.

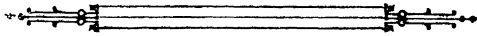


JOSEPH S. JACOBUS was left an orphan by the death of his mother when he was only four years old, and instead of spending his early life in the schoolroom he was put when very young at hard work. That he has risen as he has above the disadvantages which came with this misfortune, is greatly to his credit. He was born in Essex County, N. J., June 3, 1849, and was the son of Gould and Jane (Personett) Jacobus. His father was a turner by occupation and continued to reside in New Jersey until Joseph was nineteen years old.

The subject of this sketch came to Michigan in 1869 and settled in Sidney Township, Montcalm County. His first business here was milling, which he has followed more or less closely all through his residence in the State, although he has also engaged quite extensively in agriculture. He now has a well-improved farm of eighty acres on which he

resides, and which is considered one of the finest in the township. It was his custom to carry on milling in winter and farming in summer. His marriage October 24, 1860, with Lucy Gilmore, has been blessed by the birth of one son, Jesse, born September 19, 1871. He has spent much time in clearing the forest in various parts of the county, and is a man of indomitable industry and perseverance.

Mr. Jacobus is the proprietor of a shingle mill which he is successfully running at Sidney Center. He appreciates for the rising generation the educational advantages which stern necessity withheld from him. An earnest promoter of all school interests he has held the position of School Director for two years. He is a deserving citizen who enjoys the confidence and esteem of all about him, and his neighbors heartily rejoice in his business prosperity.



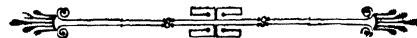
JOSEPHUS DASEF, a son of Alexander and Sarah (Mitchell) Dasef, was born near Toronto, Canada, August 3, 1833. His father was of French origin, and first saw the light of day while his parents were crossing the ocean in search of a new home in Canada. His mother was of English birth. Alexander Dasef was a cooper by trade, but in his later years became a farmer. Two sisters of our subject reside, one in Pennsylvania, and the other in Canada.

Josephus Dasef spent his early life on the farm in Canada, and until he was seventeen years of age his educational advantages were very poor, but at that time he availed himself of night schools and made real advancement in his studies. At the same time he began to learn the trade of a carpenter, and for two years served an apprenticeship, receiving \$6 per month during that time. For four years he worked independently, and by that time had gained sufficient standing in his trade to take contracts, and be an employing carpenter.

In 1862 he celebrated Christmas Day by uniting himself in matrimony with Christiana Stuart, of the

in the town of Glandford, Wentworth County, Canada, a daughter of Alexander Stuart. This worthy couple had been blessed with seven children, namely: John W., born October 4, 1863; Alam W., August 25, 1865; Hormanus S., October 19, 1867, and Major L., his twin; Lillie, February 26, 1870; David W., February 16, 1871; Margaret E., October 16, 1874. Three of these children have been removed by death. All the others are either at home or settled near home. Their father has ever taken an active interest in educational matters, and has given his children an excellent education. His eldest son is principal of the schools at Pierson, Mich. The second boy graduates at the State Normal School in 1891.

When Mr. Dasef came to Michigan in 1869, he settled in Day Township, Montcalm County, and undertook the business of lumbering and the manufacture of shingles. After remaining there four years he removed to Stanton, where he resided for three years. In the spring of 1876 he took up the farm where he now resides. He cleared and improved eighty acres of the one hundred and sixty and built his fine residence, a two-story brick, as well as other buildings on the farm. In politics he is a Republican, and in the late campaign he was the Republican nominee for member of the Legislature. For four years he has been Justice of the Peace, and was Commissioner of Highways for two years, refusing the office the third term. At four different times he has been Chairman of the Township Republican Committee, and is always a member of that Board. He has been a delegate to county conventions, and a member of every State Republican Convention in which he always takes an active interest.



CHADWICK A. LEE, one of the thrifty and industrious farmers of Ionia County, owns a fine piece of property in Keene Township. The two hundred and forty broad acres that comprise the estate are well cultivated, and during the seasons of planting and reaping are the scenes of busy life, and at harvest time show heavy heads of

grain and fruitful shocks. The buildings that have been erected on the farm are ample for every need and all are substantial and in good repair. The dwelling is a homelike and comfortable one and has an air of neatness sufficient to stamp it as the residence of a family of refinement and good taste. That Mr. Lee has been successful in his life work, and that he pushes his enterprise according to modern ideas of progress, is indicated by every appointment of his estate.

Mr. Lee is a native of Ionia County, and is the son of Archeleus C. and Harriet (Bowen) Lee, who are now residing in Clinton County. His father was born in New York, came to this State during his youth and attained to his majority in Keene Township, at what is now called Potter's Corners. The family had located in what was virtually a wilderness and he bore his share in pioneer labors and became well known as a public-spirited and enterprising member of society. About 1870 he removed to Saranac, where he lived until 1888, when he removed to Elsie where he is now enjoying the fruits of his labors and acting the part of a good citizen. Politically he is a Republican.

The birth of Chadwick A. Lee took place October 14, 1852, and he grew to manhood amid the surroundings of rural life in Ionia County, and from his early years has been taking a part in farm work. He attended the district schools and then spent three years in pursuing his studies in the public school of Saranac, and has still further added to his store of knowledge by considerable reading and keen observation of men and things. December 24, 1872, he was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia Bush, daughter of George W. and Mary Bush, who are now living in Grand Rapids. Mrs. Lee was born in this State, received a good education and learned how to manage the household affairs that generally fall to the lot of women. She is the mother of one daughter, Myrtie E., who was born May 29, 1875.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee are among the most active members of society in their section of the county and take a deep interest in the common weal. Keeping themselves well informed regarding the progress of mankind, they favor that which will give to future generations still better opportunities

than are enjoyed at present, and do what they can to elevate the status of opinion and upbuild the county in all that is best. In the accumulation of his fine property Mr. Lee was ably assisted by the good management of his wife and together they are enjoying the results of their planning and labor.



VIRGIL G. CONNER, one of the oldest citizens of Ionia County, resides on section 30, Easton Township. He was born November 10, 1842, and is the son of Thomas H. and Mary A. (Hunt) Conner, natives of New York. His paternal ancestry is of Irish blood and his mother is descended from Quaker ancestry. His father was an emigrant to Ionia County in 1835, and was active in opening up the country and clearing it of timber. His death took place on the home farm, October 17, 1885. He and his brother Jared Conner, owned a pole-boat or flat-boat and took out the first wheat that was exported from Ionia County, transporting it to Grand Rapids.

The father of our subject was surrounded by Indian neighbors with whom he carried on trade. He was the first Constable of the town, being elected at the first town meeting. For a number of years he worked for the Rev. William M. Ferry of Grand Haven, in the lumber business, but in 1852 he returned to his farm in Easton Township, and lived here until his death. His wife survived him but passed to the other world December 7, 1889. Their three children are, our subject; Mrs. Mason of Osceola County, Mich.; and Mrs. Tunmore. He was an active church worker in the Congregational denomination, and his enterprise, character and ability strongly emphasized his loss when he was taken away.

The subject of this sketch received the rudiments of his education in what is known as the Dexter district school of Easton Township. These opportunities have been supplemented by a life-long habit of reading, and he has in this way become a well-informed man. In the early days of the Civil War he became greatly interested in the conflict and enlisted August 8, 1862, in Company K, Twenty-

first Michigan Infantry, which became a part of the army of the Cumberland, under Sheridan, Buell, Rosecrans and Sherman. He participated in the battle of Perryville, and was all through Buell's campaign in Kentucky in the fall of 1862. At Chickamauga he received a gunshot wound in the left side, which now entitles him to a pension of \$4 per month. In the summer of 1864 he was stationed at Chattanooga, and his regiment was detailed as engineers and built the military bridge across the Tennessee River. He was also in the battles of Averysboro and Bentonville, took part in the siege of Savannah, and was in numerous skirmishes of minor importance. He marched with Sherman to the sea and cherishes with pride the old rifle which he carried all through that wonderful march. This is an Enfield rifle of English manufacture, carrying an ounce ball about a mile.

After his honorable discharge June 8, 1865, our subject returned to Ionia County, where he still makes his home. His marriage took place May 19, 1881. He was then united with Mrs. Sarah J. Dexter, widow of the late S. T. Dexter. She is a native of Orange County N. Y., where she was born October 17, 1831. She is of New York parentage, her father being Benjamin Conner, and her mother bearing the maiden name of Catherine Bronson. She was an emigrant at a very early age, coming to Michigan when about five months old. Her parents made their first home in Oakland County, but later came to the Grand River Valley and settled in Easton Township. Her parental family consisted of seven children: Sarah J., William H., Virgil B., George W., Arthur A., Ellen M. and Catherine A. Her first marriage which united her with S. T. Dexter, took place February 28, 1850. This gentleman came to Ionia County when only eight years of age, and belonged to one of the pioneer families of the township. Her marriage with Mr. Dexter gave her two children—Marshall S. and Benjamin C. Marshall S. was a student in the High School, was taken sick and went to California for his health, but died in Woodland, that State, and was buried there; Benjamin C. was a young man of bright promise, who served as guard at the prison, and later as keeper, and returned home to recuperate, but died in a short time. He

left a widow who was formerly known as Miss Mathie A. Stebbens; she too is now deceased. Mr. Dexter was a man of prominence and held several offices of public trust, and was Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He was a Christian gentleman and died in the faith of the Congregational Church.

Mr. Conner is a stalwart Republican in politics, a man greatly interested in matters of public importance; he has seventy acres of land in an excellent state of cultivation. Mr. Conner has served both in 1880 and in 1890 as United States Census Enumerator in Easton Township. He has filled the offices of Township Clerk and School Director. Mr. and Mrs. Conner are among the most honored and esteemed pioneers of the Grand River Valley. Their hospitality is widely known and they are greatly admired by their neighbors for their benevolence and sociability. In the business community Mr. Conner's veracity is unquestioned and he receives deserved credit for his record both as a citizen and a soldier.



CALEB H. ROBB was born in Jackson, Ohio, on the 18th of February, 1851. He is the son of Andrew and Jane (Lockhart) Robb. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Pennsylvania. He has a brother Joseph residing at Mancelona, Antrim County, Mich., and a sister, Mrs. Carr, at Grand Rapids. Andrew Robb moved to Hillsdale County, Mich., and began farming there when this son was only six years old. For nine years this was his home. He attended school only about a year, and is entirely a self-educated man, having been a close student from his early boyhood, and having improved every opportunity which came to him. At the age of fifteen years he moved to Stanton, Mich., and began lumbering, milling and shingle-making. He remained there about two years.

The next home of our subject was Amsdon, Fair Plains Township, where he lived for one year, when he came to Sidney Township, Montcalm County, and made it his permanent home. From

that time on farming and lumbering have engaged his full attention. He has a fine farm of eighty acres which he cleared and improved himself. His mother died on his place here three years ago, leaving him very much alone as he had never married. In politics he is a Democrat, although he cares nothing for office himself, but he has been made Assessor and has done the work of that office four years. He takes a very active interest in everything that pertains to education.

The family have experienced some severe afflictions: one brother, Alexander, having died at Flint, Mich., just as he was going into active service into the army; another brother was taken prisoner in the war, and confined in Andersonville for eight months in 1864. He was reduced in weight from one hundred and eighty pounds to fifty-six pounds, being almost starved to death. Mr. Robb himself passed through severe experiences during the hard times here in 1864 to 1866. He had no way to make money except by shaving shingles at a very low price and the cost of all provisions was exorbitant. Meat could be procured at no lower price than twenty-five cents per pound; sugar was twenty cents and flour \$8 to \$10 per hundred weight.



ABNER HALL is one of the adopted children of our country who have helped to enrich her by their sturdy character, and capability for and willingness to work, and to sacrifice generously for the sake of a home in a free land. The subject of our sketch was born in Nottingham County, England, December 12, 1833. He was the son of Charles A. and Mary (Lidget) Hall. During his early life in England he worked at whatever he could find to do, usually at very low wages. The last year of his stay in that country brought him \$38 in wage money. He came to America at the age of nineteen years, settling in Portage County, Ohio, where he worked at farming, but at the age of twenty-three years he removed to Montcalm County, Mich., and settled in Sidney Township, where he now resides. His first settlement was about two miles from his present home.

He found only a forest and saw no easy times. He and his family bravely lived on Johnny cake and tea while he cleared the forest and built a log cabin. At this time of great necessity he received \$50 from relatives in England, and he could find but one man in the whole county who could cash the exchange; that man was J. M. Fuller, than residing at Greenville.

Mr. Hall used to carry his provisions from Greenville to his home, a distance of some twelve miles on his back. He often carried a load of one hundred pounds in this manner. At one time he agreed with a neighbor that he would carry home, a distance of six miles, a large iron plow, and he kept his word. In clearing his farm he cut down timber which would to-day be worth double the value of the land. He sold this farm and about eighteen years ago moved to where he now resides, one mile west of Sheridan, on a fine place of eighty acres, highly improved and of very fertile soil. In the early days he once borrowed a neighbor's hoe and broke it during the first day's work. He had to walk to town to buy another to replace it and was obliged to spend for it the money which his wife had laid aside to get him a pair of trousers. His worthy companion supplied the place of the lost articles of clothing by a pair made out of bed ticking, which her good husband bravely wore on Sundays. Potatoes then cost \$1.50 per bushel, and were paid for by days' work at five bits, (sixty-two and one-half cents) per day.

The subject of this sketch chose as his partner in life Hannah Mistetter. Their union was celebrated November 24, 1853. They have seven children, as follows: Henry A., born August 4, 1855, married Effa Savocool; Mary J., born October 30, 1857, married John Davis; George E., born June 10, 1860, married Eva Savocool; Emma J., Mrs. Peterman, was born June 16, 1862; Anna M., Mrs. Griggs, December 2, 1867; Elmer T., June 2, 1871; Jesse B., June 16, 1874. All these children are living except the last two named.

The subject of this sketch spent one year in the army, doing picket duty around Petersburg. In this service he was twice wounded. He is a Democrat in his political affiliations and is always active in promoting the interests of the community.



Geo W Snyder M.D.

GEORGE W. SNYDER, M. D. The medical profession is represented in Sebewa, Ionia County, by men of extended knowledge and practical skill, and an honorable place among them is held by Dr. Snyder, who belongs to the Eclectic School. He hung out his "shingle" here in the fall of 1878, immediately after his graduation from the Bennett Medical College in Chicago. He has successfully competed with other practitioners, and has won the confidence of the community and secured a practice that is the source of a good income. A lithographic portrait of this successful physician appears on the opposite page.

Dr. Snyder is of Dutch descent in the paternal line, but prior to the American Revolution one of his progenitors was living in Canada and crossed the border to enter the Colonial army. By so doing he lost his property, it being confiscated by the British Government, and at the close of the war he settled in Pennsylvania. Another of the ancestors was John Cooper, who also fought in the Revolutionary forces, he having emigrated from Ireland prior to the Declaration of Independence.

John A. Snyder, father of the Doctor, was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., and removed to this State in 1862, settling in Barry County, where he is still living. His wife, formerly Fanny M. Palmatier, was of French and Dutch descent, and was a daughter of Thomas and Martha (Drumm) Palmatier. She was a native of the same county as her husband, and a member of the same church, the Methodist Episcopal. She entered into rest in 1865. The parental family comprised seven sons, all but one of whom are yet living. The exception is Thomas, who died in adult years. The survivors are William Henry, George W., Francis M., Charles N., John L. and James A. William, George and Charles are physicians; John is a minister of the United Brethren Church; and James and Francis are farmers.

Dr. Snyder of whom we write, was born in Chemung County, N. Y., August 26, 1845, and with the exception of one summer spent in Pennsylvania, he lived there until his parents came to Barry County. At the new home he remained until the last of September, 1864, when his father and older brother went to Hastings, leaving him to fin-

ish cutting the corn, there being but half an acre standing. When this was done he had nothing to do but follow the bent of his own inclination, and so went to Jackson, and on October 1 enlisted in Company H., Twenty-first Michigan Infantry. Eight days later he started to the front and joined the regiment at Chattanooga, Tenn., whence they went to Dalton, Ga., and took up the line of march with Sherman to the sea.

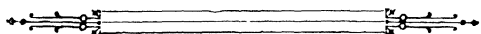
Mr. Snyder was at Savannah during the seven days' siege, after which the troops rested thirty days before starting on the return trip. They marched to Goldsboro, captured Fayetteville, and reached Bentonville March 19, 1865, meeting the combined forces of Gens. Bragg and Johnston. The hardest fight in the march to and from the sea took place there, and the last engagement led by Gen. Sherman. In one charge made by three hundred men, nearly a third were left on the field, so great was the slaughter. Continuing on toward the North after witnessing the surrender of Gen. Johnston, Mr. Snyder was afflicted with rheumatism and was sent to Washington via Newbern, N. C. He was placed in the hospital at Alexandria, Va., where he received his discharge June 16, 1865.

Returning to his home in Barry County with the \$600 he had carefully saved from his soldier's earnings, Mr. Snyder bought eighty acres of wild land in Maple Grove Township, and for two years labored at its development and at the carpenter's trade. He then sold the property, bought in the town of Barry, and began the study of medicine under Dr. Watson, of Bedford, Calhoun County. He entered the medical college before mentioned, and after his graduation and establishment at Sebewa, exchanged his Barry County property for land in Ionia County. He now owns one hundred and thirty acres which he superintends, having the work thereon done by hired help.

In February, 1866, Mr. Snyder was united in marriage with Mary C. Bowman, daughter of Henry and Mary Bowman of Johnstown, Barry County. Mr. Bowman was a native of New York, but immigrated to the wilds of Michigan about 1836. He was by birthright a member of the Society of Friends, and never departed from his faith, although he was deprived of association with any

body of Quakers after he came West. Doctor and Mrs. Snyder are the parents of five children—Edwin M., Fanny E., Winnie B., George W. and Henry P. The oldest was graduated from a Detroit Medical College in the Class of '88, and is now a practicing physician and druggist at Sunfield, Eaton County; Henry P. married Eva, daughter of Benjamin Probasco. Fanny is pursuing her studies in Portland, and is now in her junior year; Winnie died when seven years old.

Dr. Snyder belongs to Henry Rice Post, No. 151, G. A. R., at Sebewa, and is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, in which he has held all the Chairs. He has always taken an interest in politics, and has frequently served as a delegate to county, State and Congressional conventions, where he has been quite active. He is an unwavering Republican.



JAMES G. CONNER, M. D. The city of Ionia, Ionia County, has been the home of Dr. Conner but a few years, but he has obtained a good following and is advancing in medical ranks. In September, 1890, he formed a co-partnership with Dr. Arthur P. Crofts who is one of the most promising young physicians of the city and is able to relieve the senior partner in many ways, while each works for the mutual advancement and brightens the mind of the other by discussion of scientific principles and theories old and new. Dr. Conner had a thorough education in the English branches before entering upon his medical studies, and took his professional course in schools that are of national reputation. His practice has extended over a score of years, during which period he has been thoughtful and judicious in his treatments.

Pennsylvania is the native State of Dr. Conner and is that in which his parents, John and Nancy (Moon) Conner, were born. His father was Justice of the Peace for many years. He died in 1851, when his son James was but ten years old, the latter having been born at Landisburg June 16, 1841. Our subject is one of two surviving members of the parental family, the other being

William M., a merchant at Indianapolis, Ind. First in the common schools and then in Mt. Dempsey Academy, James G. Conner pursued his studies, and at their conclusion he entered upon the profession of teaching. The outbreak of the Rebellion roused him from his peaceful pursuit and ere many months he had determined to abandon it in favor of military life.

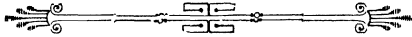
August 8, 1862, Mr. Conner was enrolled in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-third Pennsylvania Infantry, becoming Fourth Sergeant. He had little personal knowledge of battles as the command of which he was a part had the fortune to reach the scenes of combat the day after the engagement more frequently than the day before. He had other experiences which belong to the life of a soldier during the months in which he remained in the South. He was discharged March 10, 1863, on account of hernia, and returned to his native State, becoming connected with the Fifteenth District of Pennsylvania as Enrolling Officer and Deputy United States Marshal. He held the position during the three drafts that were made in the State.

Mr. Conner began his medical studies in the office of Dr. James Galbraith at Landisburg, and after two years' reading attended lectures at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in 1864-65. He then began practicing at Indianapolis, Ind., but not being satisfied with his professional schooling, he left the city in 1866-67 and gave his attention to lectures in Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated the ensuing spring. He then went to Sangamon County, Ill., and for two years was located at Pleasant Plains, after which he traveled as a specialist in diseases of the eye and ear until 1873. That year he located at Belding, this State, which was the center of his practice until 1882, when he went to Kaukauna, Wis. In that place he remained until September, 1887, and then located in Ionia.

Dr. Crofts, partner of Dr. Conner, is a young man of liberal education, having taken a literary course at Ypsilanti and a medical course at Ann Arbor, and continued his professional studies in the Long Island Collegiate Hospital, from which he was graduated in March, 1890. He opened an

office in Detroit and practiced there three months, then came to Ionia and formed a connection with Dr. Conner.

Dr. Conner was married in 1869 to Miss Anna P. Claspill, and their union has been blest by the birth of five children, named respectively: Virginia B., Leona, Nannie; Isabel (deceased); and Grace. Dr. Conner has been a life-long Republican, his first Presidential ballot having been cast for Abraham Lincoln. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and to the Royal Arcanum. He is not only a reputable physician, but a good citizen and a highly regarded member of society.



HENRY N. ANDERSON, of the firm of Anderson & Foster, is one of the financial pillars of Greenville, Montcalm County. As one of the most prominent business men of the place and one of its soundest capitalists, he has influence, and the public spirit that he manifests whenever the welfare of the city is at stake makes his position among the citizens still more important than it would otherwise be. While exercising good judgment regarding his personal affairs and making them foremost, he does not forget that he is only one of many and seems to fully realize that his real good is bound up in that of the other dwellers in the town. The firm of Anderson & Foster owns the Greenville Gas Works and is also engaged in the manufacture of lumber; and Mr. Anderson is Vice President of the City National Bank and the founder of the Anderson Packing Company.

In the Emerald Isle Samuel Anderson, father of our subject was born and grew to manhood and became engaged quite extensively in farming and stock-dealing. Led to America by what he had heard of her resources and institutions, he located in Pennsylvania and became one of the wealthiest men of Blair County. He settled there when the section was new and known as Huntingdon County. He gave financial aid to the building of school-houses, churches and roads, and took an active part in church work, belonging to a Presbyterian

society. He married Susan Weaver, a Pennsylvania lady who also belonged to the Presbyterian Church. To them were born eight children, the living being George W., a detective at Altoona, Pa.; Henry N. of this notice; and Margaret, wife of Henry Painter, living in Altoona. The father died June 22, 1849, and the mother in March, 1875. Mr. Anderson belonged to the old Whig party.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was born in Blair County, Pa., August 2, 1839. After his father's death he left the parental roof and started out to "paddle his own canoe" on the stream of life. He had received some schooling in a log house where the seats were made of slabs and the roof of clapboards, but, although his book knowledge was comparatively limited, he knew there was a large world before him and plenty of work to do. Plucky and energetic he made up his mind to find employment, and going down on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad he was soon hired out to drive a two-wheeled cart, hauling ballast for the road. For some months he was a driver, then he helped to ballast the road and later worked on the repair force, continuing on the road altogether three years. He then went into the carshops of the same road and worked until a telegram was received announcing that Ft. Sumter had been fired upon.

When the telegram was read Mr. Anderson and Stephen Potts threw off their outer shop clothes and started for Hollingsburg, not waiting for a call for troops. The morning after their arrival the call for seventy-five thousand men came, and going to Altoona they enlisted for three months. They were sent to Harrisburg, thence to Baltimore, then to Little York, Pa., where they remained some time, and then to Martinsburg, Va., where Mr. Anderson received his discharge. He returned to Altoona, became foreman of the Keystone Bridge Company and as soon as he had finished a bridge over the Ohio River at Steubenville, he again entered the army. He enlisted as a private in Company E, Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, which formed a part of what was known as the Western army. During his second enlistment he had charge of the wood department. He served on

this occasion fifteen months, which brought the time down to the close of the war.

When his army life was over Mr. Anderson returned to Altoona and engaged in contracting and building for five years. He then built the City Steam Flouring Mill in which he carried on an extensive trade until 1878, when he rented the plant and came to Michigan. He stopped at Greenville and embarked in the lumber business as one of the firm of Loudon, Anderson & Co. They did an extensive business, building in Kent County one of the largest steam sawmills at that time to be seen in this part of the State, and putting up another large mill in West Troy, Newaygo County. They bought great quantities of pine land and a large force is still kept at work by the present firm. The first change in the proprietorship of the business was to Anderson & Griffin who carried on the mills a number of years, Mr. Griffin then giving place to Mr. Foster, the present partner of Mr. Anderson. The firm is John J. Foster & Co.

The firm of Anderson & Foster bought the Greenville Gas Works in 1887 and now supply the city with gas. Mr. Anderson established his packing company in 1890, and has put up splendid buildings in which a number of men find employment. By means of these various business enterprises he has done much to build up the city, adding to the number of dwellings and business houses necessary to accommodate the inhabitants, and increasing the circulation of money. He owns a large farm in Kent County and a fine herd of blooded cattle. He has also a good city property on Franklin Street.

The marriage of Mr. Anderson and Miss Sarah W. Counsman of Altoona, Pa., was solemnized in 1862. Mrs. Anderson, who is a pleasant, well-informed and Christian woman, is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah Counsman. Our subject's family consists of Ida, now Mrs. B. Miller of Altoona, Pa.; Carrie; Martha, wife of A. W. Middleton of Greenville; Manola, Samuel A., Henry N., Jr., Edger G., Daisy M.; Jessie deceased; Lulu G.; and Bertha, deceased. The oldest daughter has four children—Jessie, Ada, Downs and Maggie.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Republican

party and is identified with the social order of Knights of Pythias. He is a Trustee of the Congregational Church, of which he and his wife are members in good standing. That he possesses business ability of a high order is proved by his connection with important interests, and that he is held in good repute it needs but a mention of his name in Greenville to show.



WILLIAM BROWN. It is due to the pioneers of Michigan that their names be held in remembrance, and their labors recalled by those to whom the benefits of the present civilization have been given through their means. Among those who have been potent factors in developing the natural resources of this great commonwealth, comparatively few of the oldest settlers survive; but in Edmore, Montcalm County, there is living one who has been connected with affairs in this State for considerably more than half a century; this is William Brown who came hither in 1832, accompanying his parents from the Empire State. They settled on wild land in the southeastern part of the then territory, where game abounded and the Chippewas roamed through the forests. In later years Mr. Brown did pioneer work in a more central part of the State, and in all the years that have passed from his boyhood he has been characterized by industry, enterprise and a desire for the good of posterity.

Grandfather Brown was born in England whence he emigrated to the colonies prior to the Revolution, in which struggle for independence he took part. He made his home in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and carried on farming there until death. His son William, father of our subject, was born there and followed in his father's footsteps as a farmer and patriot, entering the service during the War of 1812. When he came to this State early in the '30s he established his home in Macomb County. He lived there until he had reached the ripe age of seventy-eight years when he entered into rest. His faithful wife, formerly Miss Annie

Abrams, also breathed her last in that county. Her parents were from New England but were living in Rensselaer County, N. Y., when she was born.

The parental family included seven sons and daughters, and the name of our subject was third on the roll. His natal day was October 28, 1814, and he was reared on the farm in the Empire State, having the advantages of the district school. The removal of the family to this State was made on the canal to Buffalo, by steamer to Detroit and from that point the young man went on foot to the new home in Macomb County. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years old and aided his father in opening up the wild land and making their location comfortable and profitable. When he started out in life for himself he bought eighty acres in Orange Township from the Government, and in the midst of the forest made a small clearing and built a log house. The floor of his humble dwelling was of basswood, split and hewed by his own strong arm. Around it he removed the forest growth and placed acre after acre under cultivation. For some time his nearest neighbor was two and a half miles distant.

In the fall of 1841 Mr. Brown decided to change his place of residence to Genesee County, and he therefore bought timber land in Flushing Township. He built upon the property and set about its improvement, also engaging in the manufacture of black salts. For five years he worked upon the eighty-acre tract, then removed to St. Joseph County and operated rented land until 1852. During that year he removed to Kent County buying eighty acres in Cannon Township. Again he had arduous labor to perform in fitting his property for use and making it a pleasant home for an intelligent family. In connection with his agricultural work he engaged to a considerable extent in lumbering, and from 1876 to 1880 he gave his attention exclusively to work connected with the handling of timber. He bought four hundred and eighty acres of pine land at Cedar Springs and manufactured shingles and lumber from all of it.

In 1880 Mr. Brown bought one hundred and sixty acres in Home Township, Montcalm County, and established his home here. He improved the land, manufacturing shingles from the trees cut,

and finally sold off one-half the estate. The acreage that remains is situated on section 29, and is one of the most comfortable farms in the county. Mr. Brown still gives his attention to raising grain and stock and also deals in real estate. In the summer of 1881 he laid out an addition to Edmore, planting forty acres. He was poor when he began his life work, but his persistence and good judgment have brought him financial success and he has surrounded himself with many comforts, made provision for his declining years and given his children considerable capital.

Mrs. Brown has lived in this State even longer than her husband, having accompanied her parents hither in 1825. Her maiden name was Eliza A. Jacox, and she was born in Ohio, March 19, 1822. Her parents, Abijah and Mary (Cronk) Jacox, were born near Lima, N. Y., and both died in Wayne County, Mich., twelve miles south of Detroit. The mother was of Dutch descent, being the daughter of Joseph Cronk, who emigrated from Holland. The father was a soldier in the War of 1812. Their family included twelve children who grew to maturity and Mrs. Brown was next to the youngest. She spent some years in Wayne County, remaining under the parental roof until the death of her father, when she went to Mt. Clemens, Macomb County. There she made her own living until her marriage in February, 1837, at the age of fifteen years.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown we note the following: James died when twelve years old; Mary L. married B. Phillips and lives at Edmore; Charles E. is a farmer near that place; Aurilla married A. Swift and lives at Courtland, Kent County; Colonel Edward died when quite small; Harvey operates the old homestead in Kent County; Ella is the wife of Benjamin Rector and lives at Rockford, Algona Township, Kent County. Mr. and Mrs. Brown celebrated their golden wedding in 1887 and received from their relatives and friends a number of choice gifts commemorative of their half century of wedded life. They take a just pride in the wonderful improvements that have taken place in Michigan during the past half century, and notwithstanding the hardships they endured and the toilsome hours they spent, they

rejoice in having had a part in the work that has resulted in making this one of the finest States in the Union. Mr. Brown has been Vice President of the Edmore Agricultural Society since its organization. His political adherence is given to the principles laid down in the platform of the Republican party. Mrs. Brown belongs to the Congregational Church. The friends of the good couple are not confined to the community in which they now live, but are scattered broadcast over the State whose history they know so well and whose prosperity affords them so much gratification.



STEPHEN H. KIMBALL. The simple record of the life of an honest, industrious man is the best testimonial to his worth and the best monument on which to inscribe his virtues and thereby influence others. In the following paragraphs we purpose to thus deal with the gentleman above named, who is too well known and honored in this part of Michigan to need our commendation. He is a farmer, pleasantly located on section 16, Lyons Township, Ionia County, where he has an estate consisting of two hundred and eighty acres. The tract is well improved and, with the exception of sixty-five acres, was cleared and brought to its present condition by him. The residence he occupies was built in 1880 at a cost of \$5,000 and is a neat, substantial brick structure, which is furnished in keeping with the financial ability and good taste of those who occupy it.

Stephen Kimball, the father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire, and there grew to manhood and began his life work as a farmer. He went thence to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he married Mercy Stiles, a native of the old Bay State, who went to New York when a young lady. Early in the '30s Mr. Kimball decided to come West and with his family he traveled with a team to Calhoun County. He made his home where the city of Marshall now stands, until 1858, then came to Ionia County and finally died at the home of his son, our subject, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. Mrs. Kimball died in Marshall in 1842. Within the

limits of Calhoun County there were but few homes of white settlers when they located there, and the work they did was a potent factor in the development of the country.

The family of Stephen Kimball and his good wife included ten children of whom we note the following: William, who was born in Russell Township, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., died there at the age of fourteen years; two died in infancy; Julius breathed his last in Marshall when that place was being colonized, and Emily died there of scarlet fever; William L. passed away in Iowa, and Oliver S. in Ionia County, this State; Laura died in Calhoun County; Albert W. is a resident of Iowa; Stephen H., the youngest of the family, is the subject of this life history.

The natal day of the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was February 2, 1828, and his birthplace the town of Russel, St. Lawrence County, N. Y. He was a child of four years when his parents located at Marshall and there he remained until he was twenty years old. He studied in the first schoolhouse built in Calhoun County, and made good use of the limited opportunities of the place and period to acquire a knowledge of book lore. When he left home he came to Ionia County and began working by the month for his brother. He continued this for some time, but in 1852 went to California via New York and Panama. On the ship were two hundred and fifty persons, fifty-five of whom died in one week of cholera. After reaching the coast Mr. Kimball spent one month splitting rails, receiving \$75 for his labor. He then engaged in mining and at that occupation put in the rest of the two years of his sojourn. He made from twenty-five cents to \$55 per day and averaged about \$100 per month from the time he left home until his return.

Mr. Kimball returned to Michigan via Graytown, the Pacific steamer being "Uncle Sam," and the Atlantic, "Northern Lights." He spent a week in the metropolis, whence he came by rail to Marshall, then walked to Lyons, Ionia County. He had one hundred and sixty acres of land on sections 21 and 22, Lyons Township, but after his return from the coast he bought the place he now occupies. He made some improvements here before his marriage and

continued the work in later years, although the log house that still stands on the farm was occupied as a dwelling until the present residence was built.

Mr. Kimball was married in 1858 to Miss Mary J. Wright, who was born in Marshall in 1838 and was reared there. For thirty years she looked after the comfort of her husband and children and did all she could to equip her family for the duties and obligations imposed upon them. She exchanged time for eternity in December, 1888, and her mortal remains were deposited in Lyons Cemetery. Her children are, Henry L., who lives on the farm with his father; Frank H., who died when five years old; Flora B., wife of Frank A. Herron, living on a farm in Gratiot County; Minnie C., Emma A., and Laura A., who look after the home comfort of their father; Frankie M. and H. Howard, who are also at home.

During one term Mr. Kimball held the office of Township Treasurer, but with this exception he has given his attention to general farming and stock-raising, the enjoyments of social and domestic life, and the duties that devolve upon all good citizens. He possesses the true public spirit, contributes liberally to worthy enterprises and takes pride in noting the advancement of the people. He is social and agreeable, intelligent and well-read, and an hour spent in his society is never thrown away.



WILLIAM A. INMAN. The farmers of Ionia County number among them the gentleman above named, who is a prominent citizen of Easton Township. He is the owner and occupant of seventy-five acres of land on sections 23 and 25, which acreage has been thoroughly tilled in accordance with the most approved methods and made to yield abundantly of such crops as are sown. Upon the estate there may be seen the usual farm buildings and a substantial brick residence which was built in the fall of 1884 and presents an appearance of home comfort attractive to every passer-by.

Mr. Inman is a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., and was born April 2, 1826. His parents were

Daniel and Lucy (Huyck) Inman, who were likewise born in the Empire State and who occupied a farm there during the early years of the son. The lad pursued his studies in the district schools and made the most of the advantages of the time and place until sixteen years old, when he began to learn the cooper's trade with his father, who carried on a shop in connection with farming. In the fall of 1854 Mr. Inman came to Ionia County and for about ten years was engaged at his trade in Ionia, which was then but a small village. At the expiration of that period he turned his attention to farming, which he has carried on continuously, although at various times he has given some attention to other enterprises as well. For a number of years he spent the winter in lumbering. He made his present location in 1869.

When quite young Mr. Inman was married to Miss Margaret Annabel, daughter of Ephraim and Lottie Annabel, the ceremony being performed December 24, 1845. The wife died in New York August 27, 1852. To her had been born a son, Marion M. now deceased. May 11, 1856, Mr. Inman was married a second time, his bride being Jane E. Rolfe, who survived only until January 21, 1857. Once more Mr. Inman entered into the marriage relation, winning for his companion Mrs. Sarah M. Inman, *nee* Wilcox, with whom he was united May 27, 1860. This lady was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., January 17, 1825, and is a daughter of Joseph and Lovina (Rogers) Wilcox. Her paternal ancestors were English and her maternal, German. She was first married in the Empire State June 30, 1853, to Alva Inman who departed this life September 30, 1855. In the spring of the preceding year they had come to Ionia County where she has remained and where several years after becoming a widow she became the wife of our subject.

The influential position occupied by Mr. Inman is due to his worth of character and the manner in which he has served his fellow-men in positions of trust and in his genuine interest in their prosperity. He has been Township Road Commissioner, was President of the Ionia County Agricultural Society three years and Vice President, Treasurer and Director at other times. Politically he is a Repub-

lican. He is identified with the county Grange. Although he began his career in life with little means he has had a goodly acreage and his present possession is sufficient to stamp him as one of the substantial farmers of the township. He sold to the State a part of the land now occupied by the buildings of the House of Correction. He and his wife are active in the social affairs of their neighborhood and in the benevolent and church work, both being identified with the Christian Church, in which Mr. Inman is Trustee and Deacon. They have the goodwill of all who know them and many are they who feel a much warmer friendship.



LEVI SHOTWELL is the owner and occupant of one of the pleasant farms of Ionia County. It consists of one hundred and forty acres of fertile land on section 2, Danby Township, every part of which is under good cultivation or devoted to the use of the occupants and the pasturage of the stock raised. This farm has been the home of Mr. Shotwell but a short time, but he has been identified with the interests of the county for more than a quarter of a century, and is well known among the farmers and those with whom that class has dealings.

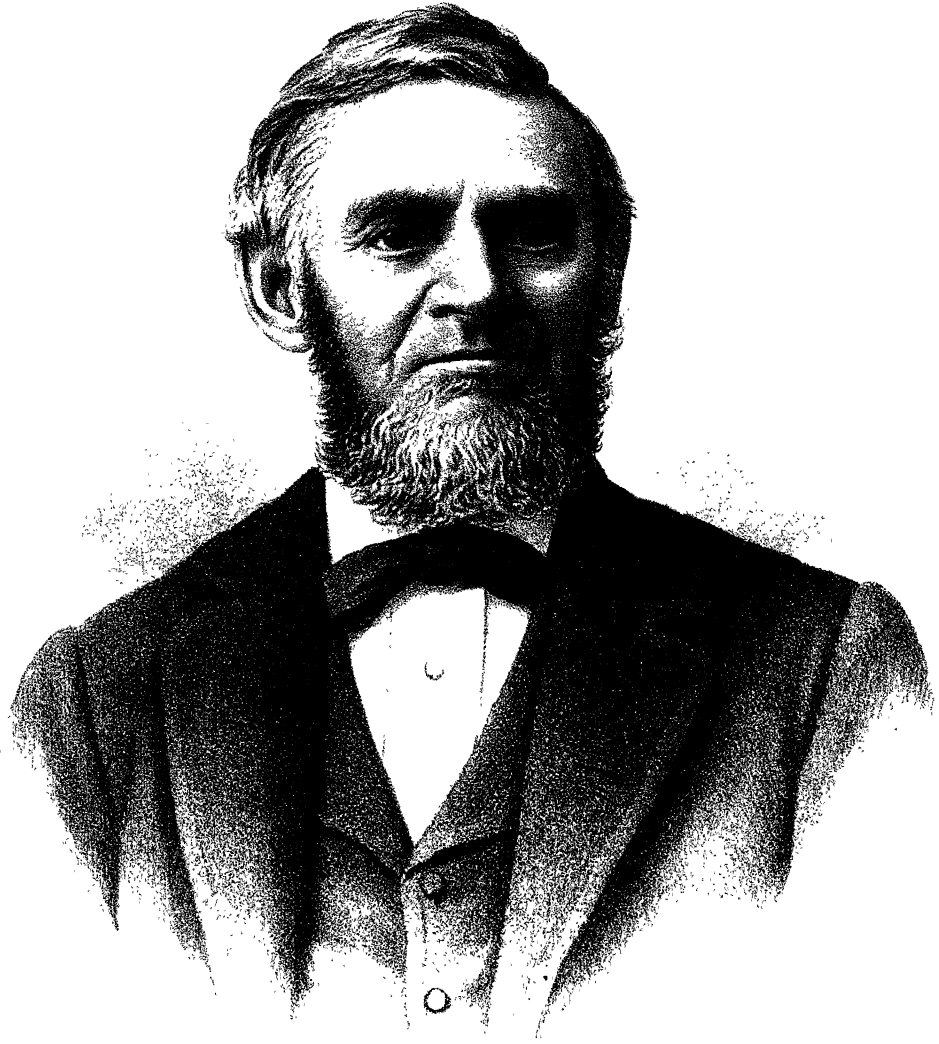
Mr. Shotwell is a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Hoag) Shotwell, who were natives of New Jersey and New York respectively, and belonged to the Society of Friends. The grandparents, both paternal and maternal, were also of that religious faith. The father died about 1866, and the mother followed him to the silent land three years later. He of whom we write was born in Genesee County, N. Y., January 2, 1827, and is the fifth of the nine children who grew to maturity and represented the family traits. He attended the district school, and at the age of eighteen years started in life on his own account, agreeing to give his father \$200 for his time until he was of age. Before he reached his majority he had saved that amount and about \$100 besides, and making a prompt payment of his indebtedness to his father, he was ready to establish a home with the fund remaining. He contin-

ued to reside in the Empire State until 1864, when he came to Ionia County and located on section 9, Portland Township. There he pursued his industrious career until the fall of 1889, when he took possession of his present place of abode.

The wife to whom Mr. Shotwell was married October 1, 1848, bore the maiden name of Sarah Estes. Her parents, Allen and Eliza (Pope) Estes, were born in Maine, and shortly after their marriage removed to New York, where the husband died in 1864, and the wife in 1880. Both were of English descent, but their ancestors for several generations have been American born. They were the parents of nine children who grew to maturity, and five of whom reside in this State.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotwell have reared a son and daughter, of whom we note the following facts: Freeman was born July 21, 1863, and when grown to manhood married Sophia Culver, daughter of Charles and Lovinia Culver. His wife died ten days after the birth of a son, Levi, and the infant found a home with its grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Shotwell. Eliza supplemented the knowledge gained in the district schools by two years' attendance in the High School at Portland, and has taught several terms. She was married to Charles D. Riker, January 19, 1875, and has one child, Reva. Mr. Riker died in March, 1889, and the widow with her child has gone to her parents' home. In 1850 Mr. and Mrs. Shotwell took an infant upon whom they bestowed the name of Josephine Shotwell. She became the wife of Benjamin Aldrich, but died at the home of her foster parents seven years later. Not long after adopting that child, our subject and his good wife took to their home a ten-year-old boy named James Cornell, and he too received affectionate care, and was given equal opportunities with their own children. He was still living with them, although on a visit to friends in Illinois, when stricken by an illness which terminated his life at the age of twenty-one years and five months.

It falls to the lot of few men to be as prominent in local offices as Mr. Shotwell has been. He was Township Supervisor six years, and Highway Commissioner sixteen, and there was scarcely a time that he did not hold a school office, either Director, Moderator or Assessor. His political record is



J. S. Powell

equalled by that of few men, and excelled by none, as he has never missed a Presidential, State, or even township election since he became a voter, and cast his first ballot for Zachary Taylor in 1848. He is an unfaltering Republican, and has often been the representative of his party in county and State conventions. Mr. Shotwell belongs to a Masonic lodge at Portland, and in the Methodist Episcopal Church at that place the names of himself and wife, son and daughter, are enrolled as members.



JOSEPH P. POWELL. In looking over Ionia County for a man whose life can be held up as a worthy example to those who are becoming discouraged with their progress, the history of Joseph P. Powell attracts attention. This gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page is a farmer located on section 33, Ronald Township, and has made such good use of his natural abilities as to have become wealthy, and in accumulating his property has been guilty of no act unbecoming a gentleman. His home farm consists of four hundred acres of land and he has six hundred acres in other parts of the State. He also owns property in Lansing, Palo and Ionia, and has considerable live stock, that on the home place including one hundred and fifty head of well-bred sheep and thirty head of cattle. Although his abundant means give him great influence, yet his fine character is a better model than his financial skill.

Mr. Powell was born in Oneida County, N. Y., February 28, 1821, and is the third son and fifth child of John L. and Margaret (Hulbert) Powell. His father was born in Massachusetts, January 1, 1780, and his mother was a native of Middletown, Conn. The former was a graduate of Williams College. During the War of 1812, John L. Powell took part in the fight at Sackett's Harbor. He was married in Trenton, Oneida County, N. Y., in 1806, and spent the balance of his life there, dying June 25, 1871. His faithful wife passed away July 7, following, and they were buried in the same grave. The husband had attained to

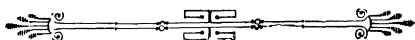
the venerable age of ninety-one years and the wife was eighty-four. They had ten children, those now living being Herbert, Jane, Joseph P. and William.

The subject of this biographical notice acquired his fundamental education in the neighborhood of his early home, and he then attended the academy at Holland Patent. He remained with his parents until he was twenty years old, then came to this State and spent the winter in Calhoun County, engaging in teaching. In the summer he worked on a farm, and after a sojourn of about twelve months he returned to his native State. A year later he again turned his footsteps westward, but located in Desplaines, twenty-three miles from Chicago, Ill., where he spent a year in the butcher's business. Thence he came to Ionia County and settled where he is still living, taking possession of a tract of land on which not a tree had been cut. He built a log house, began clearing and gave the winter months to teaching in the district school.

The companion with whom Mr. Powell established his home in Ionia County, became his wife November 11, 1846, prior to which date she was known as Miss Ruth Ann Goodwin. She was born in Oneida County, N. Y., September 14, 1831, and came to Michigan with her parents when but nine years old. Her father was a Deacon in the Baptist Church. Both parents, Chauncey and Sarah (Hubbard) Goodwin, were born in Connecticut. Mrs. Powell was carefully reared and given an understanding of domestic affairs as well as school branches, so that she is intelligent in a general sense and in all that pertains to housekeeping. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have three daughters and four sons. The eldest child Fannie, is the wife of William E. Normington and lives in Ronald Township; Henry W. is pastor of the Baptist Church in Travis City; Mary, who is still at home, is an artist and has adorned the residence with many products of her brush; Ella M., Mrs. W. G. Barnes, lives in Coopersville, her husband being a publisher and editor there; Horace H. is living in Montcalm County; Harmon J. is pastor of the Baptist Church in Creston, Iowa; Herbert E. is farming on section 34, Ronald Township.

Mr. Powell does not seek public honors but has

accepted some local offices, such as Highway Commissioner, Township Treasurer and School Inspector. In politics he is a Republican. He and his wife, as well as the various members of their family, belong to the Baptist Church. Mr. Powell has always been temperate in all things and never uses tobacco in any form. He is a liberal giver to all worthy enterprises, has been hard working and thrifty, and has so sound a reputation that his name was accepted as one of the bondsmen when the courthouse in Ionia was being erected. He is quite popular, having in addition to his sturdy qualities of character, a cordial and friendly manner.



THOMAS REGIS is one of the best known and most thriving of the business men of Edmore, Montcalm County. He handles groceries and produce and carries the largest stock of the former kept in the town. His course in life has been marked by earnest industry, frugality and integrity, and has resulted in advancing him from the position of a lad without means to that of the man of influence and financial prosperity. At least two of the direct ancestors of our subject have borne the same given name as himself. His grandfather was an English farmer who died in his native land and his father was born and reared near Dover. The latter was a striker in iron works until 1856, when he decided to emigrate to America.

With his wife and four children Mr. Regis left Liverpool Harbor on a sailing-vessel and after a voyage of six weeks landed in Quebec, Canada. He went to the vicinity of Toronto and rented a large farm, where he carried on his work some two years. He then removed to St. Clair County, this State and again operated rented land, living near Lakeport four years. Thence he came to the central part of the State and for six years his home was near Ionia. He then bought a farm near Sheridan, placed it under good improvement and resided upon it six years. At the expiration of that period he bought forty acres near Bushnell, where he is now living. He is an earnest, upright man, who has been a hard worker and is still active and

useful. He is a Democrat in politics and a Methodist in religion. He is now seventy-five years old, while his faithful wife is three years younger. She bore the maiden name of Caroline Brown, was born at Deal on the coast of England, and is the daughter of a member of the life-saving crew at that point.

The family in which Thomas Regis of this notice is the third child consists of five living members and one deceased. Our subject was born near Dover, England, February 4, 1852, and was four years old when brought across the ocean, making a voyage that he well remembers. From the age of six years his life has been spent in Michigan and his education was principally obtained in the schools of Montcalm County. He was early set to work and when fifteen years old left home to learn shingle-making. He became proficient in all the branches of the business, during the three years he spent with Fred Neff. In 1870 he made his way on foot to Home Township, where he was employed in the shingle-mill of Orth & White four years. During that period his visits to his parents were made on foot.

The next seven years were spent by Mr. Regis in the employ of Mr. Thomas and he then became foreman for Mr. Glen, continuing in that capacity two years. In 1879 he came to Edmore and became proprietor of St. James Hotel, now the Hotel Jones, after carrying on the establishment about eighteen months, M. Regis sold out and opened a restaurant, which he conducted a year. He next became clerk in the grocery store of C. W. Stafford and remained in the establishment until he was elected Marshal. He acted in that official capacity four years, during which time he was also deputy Sheriff under Mr. Summers. He had some narrow escapes from injury and passed through some experiences that make a romantic tale. In the spring of 1885, in partnership with H. Sackett, he entered into the grocery business, but six months later bought out Mr. Stevens, having dissolved his connection with Mr. Sackett. He has continued the sale of groceries and added produce to the commodities in which he deals.

In 1876 Mr. Regis was married to Miss Emma Tryon, the ceremony taking place in Sheridan.

The bride's father was a veteran of the Civil War and died from the effects of exposure and hardships endured while aiding in the defense of the old flag. Mrs. Regis was born in New York State, was well reared, and discharges the duties of her position in a creditable manner. She has borne her husband three children, named respectively Vera and Verna (twins), and Floyd.

Mr. Regis has been one of the Village Trustees three years and he is now serving on the School Board. He is a Republican "first, last and always" and has been a delegate to county conventions. The only social order with which he is connected is Masonry, in which he has attained to the Royal Arch degree, his chapter membership being in Stanton, and his Blue Lodge connection in Edmore. His religious faith is that expressed in the creed of the Baptist Church, and he is a Superintendent of the the Sunday-school connected with that organization. He is liberal-minded and has done what he could to aid the various denominations represented in Edmore to build houses of worship, and joins with each and all in benevolent work.



ANTHONY FOX, one of the aged citizens of Ionia County, has lived on section 25, Lyons Township, for many years. When he took possession of a tract of land here he was in a poorly developed part of the State and his own property had no improvements upon it. He has done much hard work and has been a potent factor in the improvement of this section and is deserving of that which he has—the respect of those who are enjoying the fruits of the labors of himself and men like him, who opened up the country for civilization.

Mr. Fox is a native of Germany, born October 26, 1811, and received his education and early training in his native land. He acquired a good fund of practical information under the excellent school system of the Empire, and, as was the custom, served in the army three years. He accompanied his father to America in 1840, their landing being made in New York City, where they re-

mained four days. Thence they came to Detroit *via* Albany and Buffalo and for six weeks remained in the City of the Straits. Our subject then came to his present place of abode and began the work of improvement, the tract being in its primitive condition. It was necessary for Mr. Fox to work hard, as was the case with others who developed the forest lands of this section, but he was rewarded by seeing his land become fruitful and attractive.

The marriage of Mr. Fox and Miss Mary Schaffer was solemnized in this State in 1846. The bride was born in Germany and emigrated to America the year of her marriage. She is still living on the homestead, she and her husband being inmates of the home of their son, John P. They have had thirteen children, eight of whom are now living. The names of the survivors are Elizabeth, Catherine, Theodore, Mathias, Stephen, Emma, Mary and John P. The latter was born in Clinton County, February 21, 1860, and reared in Ionia County. He is now carrying on the homestead, operating eighty acres of land that is as fertile as any in the county, and is well-stocked and intelligently handled. The father has given each of the four sons an eighty-acre tract, and himself remains with the youngest. John Fox was married in 1889 to Ida Simmons, who was born and reared in this State and is a capable and intelligent woman. Mr. Fox votes the Democratic ticket. Father and son are reliable in all the relations of life, have good reputations in business circles, and many friends in the community.



JACOB SNELL, a prominent and successful agriculturist of Easton Township, Ionia County, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., April 7, 1831. Of his parents, Sylvenus T. and Susan (Tunison) Snell more extended mention is made in the sketch of George A. Snell which may be found in this volume. He had no advantages for education other than are given in the district schools of those early days, but by reading and research he has made himself a thoroughly

informed man. He did much pioneer work after coming with his parents in 1849 to Ionia County. He was married January 1, 1852, to Elmira Kellogg, daughter of Charles and Isabella (Blodgett) Kellogg, early settlers of Ionia County. By their union he has three children, Victoria E. (deceased), Orson T. and Watson C. His humble log cabin has been replaced some years by a handsome residence in which he now resides and where he overlooks the work of cultivating the one hundred and twenty broad and fertile acres in his possession.

The beloved wife of his youth who had been his devoted helpmate and counselor, departed this life November 5, 1880. Her friends and neighbors united with her family in mourning her loss. She was one of the pioneer women of the county, having come here in 1851. Mr. Snell is a consistent member of the Free Methodist Church and officiates as Trustee of the same. He has seen the country grow up from a wild state to its present prosperous condition. He is a Prohibitionist in politics and widely popular for his hospitable and neighborly kindness. The parents of his wife had eight children, all of whom are deceased. They were: Orson, Louisa, Shiverisk (ex-Representative of Ionia County), Charles, Rodney, Emily, Elmira and Isabella. Mrs. Snell was identified with the Free Methodist Church and was highly respected for her many womanly virtues. Mr. Snell is classed among the prosperous wide-awake and public-spirited citizens of Ionia County.



EDWIN ABBEY. Among the prominent and successful citizens of Keene Township who have been selected for representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM is the popular and worthy ex-Clerk of Keene Township, Ionia County, the subject of this sketch and a native of the Green Mountain State. Edwin Abbey was born in Addison County, Vt., October 26, 1826. His parents Eleazer and Betsey (North) Abbey, were both natives of Vermont. His maternal Grandfather North was a hero in the Revolutionary War and

was of English descent. His paternal ancestry is from Scotland. Of four children born to his parents, three are living—Edwin, Gideon and Byron S.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood among his native Green Mountains and when quite young he began the trade of a wheelwright or wagon-maker. He followed this trade until he was about twenty years old, after which he took up the trade of a carpenter and joiner and also taught school during the winter season for a number of years, both in Vermont and in Michigan.

The marriage of Edwin Abbey with Abby Heald took place September 4, 1853. Mrs. Abbey was born in Washington County, N. Y., December 2, 1833, and is the daughter of Daniel and Pamela (Winslow) Heald. Her mother, now nearly fourscore years old, resides with our subject. Her great-grandfather Heald was in the battle of Concord and was a resident of that town. Mrs. Abbey was one of six children, four of whom are living. Her surviving brothers and sisters are: John who lives in California; Phœbe, wife of J. W. Mitchell, residents of Kansas; and Mary, wife of Cornelius Myers, of Oceana County, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Abbey have been blessed with one daughter, Mary E., who was born November 20, 1873. They have, however, one adopted son, Ransom Abbey, who resides in Otisco Township. In 1853 Mr. Abbey with his wife came to Ionia County and settled on a farm where he now resides in Keene Township. He purchased eighty acres from the State and paid for it at the rate of \$4 per acre. A board shanty 12x16 feet formed their first residence here. Some time later they erected a frame house where they resided many years. The fine residence where they now live was built in 1878. Mr. Abbey cut the first tree that was chopped down on this farm and has himself cleared the place. He has undergone the usual hardships and self-denials of pioneer life.

Our subject served for several terms as Clerk of Keene Township, also one term as its Treasurer. He is a Republican in politics. For many years he served as Postmaster of Keene, the office being located in his residence. That Mr. Abbey has been successful financially, his fine residence and splendid farm abundantly testify and the hospitality

extended by himself and his good wife is known far and wide. He is well-informed on the great political questions which agitate the minds of our American citizens, is thoroughly grounded in the doctrines of protection to American industries and believes that America is for Americans. He is a typical New England Yankee as well as a typical Western pioneer. An extensive reader and a close student he has observed critically and has attained to progressive and modern ideas.



HERBERT BAILEY. It is strange how quickly the reputation of an hotel is sent broadcast among the traveling public, yet any thoughtful person will see at once that a commercial traveler will never allow a brother salesman to be long in ignorance of the good hostelries. Among the most popular of these in Central Michigan is the Bailey House in Ionia, which is kept by gentlemen who thoroughly understand their business, supply their guests with an abundance of creature comforts and treat them with affability and true courtesy. One of the proprietors of this "traveler's delight" is the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs and whose biographical record is written below.

The Baileys came originally from England and made their emigration to America during the troublous times when the Colonists were expressing their ideas regarding the tyranny of the home government. A father and three sons came to Rutland County, Vt., and all but one were killed by Tories, the exception being Oliver, who saved his life by hiding in some alder brush. He had seen the enemy coming and given the alarm, but it was useless to attempt to flee, or do aught but make an effort at concealment in the vicinity. After the slaughter the Tories compelled the women to prepare a supper in the presence of their dead and had a hilarious time over the feast. Oliver Bailey was wounded in the foot. He afterward removed to Wayne County, N. Y., where he died in 1816. In his family was a son, Ephraim, who came to this State many years after his father's

decease, and was cared for by a son until his death, in 1880, when he was almost ninety years old. He had been blind for twenty years.

The next in the direct line of descent was Lemman H., who was born in Wayne County, N. Y., January 1, 1820, and was brought up to hotelkeeping. He began his experience after marriage by opening an inn at Shalersville, three miles from Cleveland, Ohio, on the Cleveland & Pittsburg Plank Road and the Cleveland & Pittsburg Railroad. The location is now within the limits of the Forest City. In 1852 Mr. Bailey came to Ionia County, Mich., and opened a grocery store, and subsequently kept a bakery. He was burned out twice. Resuming his former occupation in the old Higham House, he pursued it four years then re-engaged in the grocery trade. The present property was bought in 1865, but has been rebuilt and changed so that it is now one of the best hotel plants in the county.

Lemman Bailey married Rachel Klink, a native of Ohio, and to them have been born eight children. Those who are now living are Frank A., a confectioner at Port Huron; Mary A., wife of Frank Keeler of East Saginaw, Paymaster of the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad; Herbert, the subject of this notice, and Edwin, who is also interested in the hotel business in Ionia. Mrs. Bailey is a devout member of the Church of Christ. Mr. Bailey is a Mason. In 1844 he was Deputy Sheriff of Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

Herbert Bailey was born in Twinsburg, Summit County, Ohio, December 25, 1845. Having been much of his life a dweller in an hotel kept by his father, he early learned how to manage such an establishment and as a caterer he is A No. 1. Notwithstanding the multitudinous duties connected with his occupation, he finds time to take a part in the civil affairs and the social pleasures of the city. He has been a member of the Council four years and belongs to the Royal Arcanum, Knights of the Maccabees, Knights of Pythias, and Masons. He is connected with the Hotelkeepers Union of the United States. The Ionia County Fishing Club has him for its President and he is interested in stocking streams with trout and active in sportsmen's work during the season. He was married at

the bride's home in Owasso, November 20, 1870, to Miss Celia M. Rice, who has borne him one child, Jessie. Mrs. Bailey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edwin Bailey was born in Ionia March 18, 1863. Like his brother Herbert he casts a Democratic ballot and belongs to the social orders of Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Maccabees and Royal Arcanum. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Foresters. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. He was married February 24, 1886, to Esther Young, daughter of John and Mary Jane Young. The young couple have a son, John Edward.



DAVID L. THOMPSON. This name will be recognized by many readers as that of one of the stockmen of Ionia County, who is giving special attention to breeding improved Chester White and Suffolk swine. He has been identified with the citizens of Otisco Township since 1866 and has been a factor in the prosperity of the township, not alone by his occupation in life, but by the improvements he has made upon his land since he became its possessor. He owns seventy-seven acres on section 28, whose value he has greatly increased by his judicious improvement and continual development.

Mr. Thompson, although a native of this State, represents old New York families, being a son of James and Rhoda (Crawford) Thompson, who left the Empire State for the West in 1828. They made their home in Macomb County and there the father owned and operated one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land. He lived until the year 1864, but the mother of our subject died in 1840. The parental family consisted of nine sons and one daughter, the subject of this notice being the sixth son. The other members of the family are Holley, Robert, John, William, Myron, James N., Gilbert L., George W. and Nancy. Mrs. Thompson belonged to the Universalist Church. Mr. Thompson served three months during the

War of 1812 and his father-in-law was a Revolutionary soldier.

The date of the birth of David L. Thompson was May 10, 1832, and the place where that event transpired was Macomb County, this State. He remained there until he was thirty-three years old, making his home with his parents as long as they lived. When old enough to work for himself he took up the labors of life with considerable zeal and worked at the carpenter's trade and farming until his removal to Ionia County. In politics he is a Republican. He is a reliable citizen, a man of straightforward dealings, and one whose character is honorable.

Mr. Thompson was married in Lapeer County to Mary E. Patch, the date of the ceremony being April 8, 1866. The bride was a daughter of Anson B. and Ann L. (Jewell) Patch, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. Their family consisted of Mary E., Betsey, Angeline and George. The father made a second marriage, wedding Miss Emily Sullivan, who bore him four children named respectively, Elmer A., Dorothy A., Jane E. and Frank S. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are blest with one son living, whose name is Fred A. They lost a child named Clare B., at the age of fifteen months.



EDWIN PORTER, who represents Douglass Township, Montcalm County, on the Board of Supervisors, has for more than twenty years been identified with the growth and progress of the county. Possessing rare business capabilities, indomitable energy and untiring perseverance, it is not strange that he is numbered among the most prominent citizens of the township, while his record as a soldier battling for the preservation of the Union, justly entitles him to the esteem of all who love their country. He owns and operates a fine farm of eighty acres, pleasantly situated on section 23, and here he may usually be found engaged in the varied duties of his calling. He keeps thoroughly posted upon the latest improvements in farming machinery and methods of improving the land, and since he located here in September, 1883,

he has embellished his estate with substantial buildings and brought the land to a high degree of cultivation.

The immediate progenitors of Mr. Porter were Orange and Mary (Daniels) Porter, natives of Vermont and Ohio. During their residence in Richfield Township, Summit County, Ohio, he of whom we write was born June 27, 1845. When only two years old he was brought by his parents to Hillsdale County, Mich., where he passed his youth in the usual manner of farmers' sons, attending the district schools during the winter season and aiding in the work on the farm in the summer. His father developed a fine farm from the raw land which he purchased in Hillsdale County, and upon this homestead he still resides at the good old age of seventy-six years. During his active life he took great interest in political affairs and served several years as Supervisor; he has now retired from the more active duties of life, honored and esteemed by all who know him, and is passing his declining years in quietude and in the enjoyment of those comforts which he accumulated while in his prime.

On October 16, 1863, our subject enlisted in the Union army as a private in Battery F, First Michigan Light Artillery and was mustered into service at Kalamazoo, Mich. He was ordered to Kentucky where, with others in his company, he participated in the hunt after the rebel, John Morgan, through Kentucky and Tennessee, having daily skirmishes on the way. We next find Mr. Porter stationed at Knoxville, Tenn., where the Union army was besieged during the winter of 1863-64 and where they suffered innumerable hardships and privations. In the spring of 1864 the battery joined Sherman's army and proceeded to Atlanta, after the capture of which they followed Hood to Nashville. The capture and annihilation of that army is a matter of history and its effect upon the nation was immediate and startling. Battery F, which had contributed so largely to Hood's defeat, was sent to Washington, D. C., and after being re-equipped, was ordered to Goldsboro, N. C., where they joined Sherman's army.

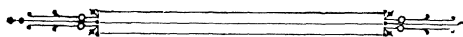
The last battle in which the battery took part after the surrender of Johnston was the battle of Kingston or Goldsboro, and after that engagement

they were ordered to Newbern, N. C. Mr. Porter was honorably discharged at Jackson, Mich., July 1, 1865. The principal engagements in which he took part were: Buzzard's Roost, Resaca. Peach Tree Creek, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Culp House, Decatur and Jonesboro, Ga., Nashville and Goldsboro, N. C. In the march to Atlanta his battery was under fire from the enemy for one hundred and four consecutive days in various skirmishes. As one who stood in proud defense of our nation and knew no fear of death or defeat, Mr. Porter is entitled to the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

Immediately after his return to the pursuits of civic life, Mr. Porter engaged in farming at the old homestead, and also followed the saw-mill business for two years. On October 19, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Adelia M. Reynolds, the daughter of Chauncey and Tryphena (Tuttle) Reynolds, natives of Steuben County, N. Y., and early settlers in Hillsdale County. Mrs. Porter is a lady of great refinement, culture of mind and kindness of heart. Her union with our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of three children, viz: Nellie A. who was born August 10, 1870, married Harvey Hancock and now lives one mile east of her father's home; Ida Alice, born November 1, 1874, is now teaching school; Myron Thomas, who was born April 25, 1878, is at home.

After his marriage Mr. Porter located in Sidney Township, Montcalm County, where he purchased an unimproved farm of forty acres. This he cleared and improved, cultivated the soil, and embellished the estate with substantial buildings for the storage of grain and the shelter of stock and farming machinery. The place was considerably improved when Mr. Porter sold it at a fair profit, and locating in Douglass Township in September, 1883, has since devoted his attention to the development of his eighty-acre farm here. His commodious residence and pleasant surroundings invariably attract the admiring attention of the passing traveler and the first impression is deepened upon closer examination. In his political belief, Mr. Porter is a Prohibitionist with Republican tendencies and takes an active interest in local affairs. He

served Sidney Township as Justice of the Peace for eight years, and as Treasurer two years. He has been Justice of the Peace in Douglass Township for four years, Highway Commissioner two years, Treasurer one year, and is now Supervisor. In whatever position he is placed, he brings to its duties the good judgment and untiring energy which characterize his actions in every department of labor.



CHARLES E. BROWN, a prosperous agriculturist of Home Township, Montcalm County, has a fine farm and a considerable tract of land in the town of Edmore. He makes his residence in the village and deals in real estate there, and also carries on his farm, dividing his attention between the raising of cereals and stock and such small crops as are suited for the market of this section. His farm consists of two hundred acres on sections 27 and 30 and bears all necessary buildings. It is carefully handled and produces well, giving adequate returns for the labor expended upon it.

Our subject is the second in a family of five children born to Mr. and Mrs. William Brown whose biography is found elsewhere in this ALBUM. He was born in Shelby, Macomb County this State March 11, 1844, and when three years old was taken to St. Joseph County, whence the family removed to Kent County a few years later. There he grew to manhood on a farm in Cannon Township, helping his father clear and develop the land and learning booklore in the district school. He managed a breaking plow to which five or six yoke of oxen were attached, picked out grubs on the tracts where trees had just been felled, and did other work by means of which land is prepared for crops. His attendance at school was mainly during the winter months and he had to go some distance to a log schoolhouse where he sat on slab benches.

When he was of age Mr. Brown left his parents' dwelling and began farming for himself. He bought a tract of new land in Oakfield Township, and as he had means and opportunity added to the original eighty until the estate comprised one hundred and

fifty-eight acres, and placed all but twenty under the plow. He drew wheat seventeen miles with oxen and received \$2.98 per bushel. In 1877 Mr. Brown removed to the township in which his parents lived and carried on the homestead until the fall of 1880. He then came to Montcalm County and bought one hundred and fourteen acres on section 30, Home Township. He located in Edmore and gave his time and energy to the cultivation of his land, and ere long added ninety-five acres to the property, this being on section 27. He also bought twenty acres within the corporation with buildings, and in 1885 put up a fine residence that is considered the best in the place.

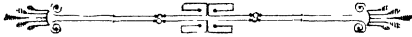
In Rockford, Kent County, March 31, 1868, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Rozella Bush, daughter of William and Eliza (Deck) Bush. Her parents were born in Herkimer County N. Y. and her grandparents belonged to the agricultural class of the Empire State. Grandfather Deck came to this State and died here at the age of ninety years. He was unusually active and but twelve months before his decease rode horseback. Mr. Bush came to Kent County early in the '50s and with his father-in-law improved a tract of land which they operated for some time. It was finally sold and Mr. Bush retired to Rockford, where he still lives. He is a staunch Republican in his political views. Mrs. Brown is the fourth child of her parents and was born near Morristown, Herkimer County, N. Y. June 15, 1848. Having come to this State with her parents in her early childhood she was reared in Kent County and obtained her education there. She is well informed, kind and efficient, and in the intervals of home duties finds opportunities to be useful to the community.

The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Brown is Edith, who was graduated from the Edmore High School in 1886. Her love for the beautiful has led her to devote considerable attention to painting for which she has a decided talent. She is now assistant post-mistress in Edmore. Mr. Brown manifests the interest in educational affairs that should be shown by every good citizen and intelligent man. He has been a member of the School Board and is now serving his third term as Village Trustee. His political influence is exerted for the Republican



Ansel, A. Crane

party and he is one of the staunchest supporters of its principles and one of the most active of its members. In all that goes to make up good citizenship he is numbered as one of the foremost men of the place and in its business and social life he bears a prominent part.



ANSEL A. CRANE. There are few men now living in Ionia County whose personal reminiscences of the pioneer work done here and the mode of life in the early days, are more vivid than those of Mr. Crane, whose portrait appears on the opposite page. His home is on section 32, Lyons Township, and he was the first settler in that vicinity. He selected his land when there was only an Indian trail to follow into the forest, and when wild animals of various kinds, including bear, wolves, deer and turkeys were numerous thereabouts, some of them proving troublesome and dangerous neighbors. Mr. Crane has been the owner of considerable land but has sold off, retaining only his original eighty acres. At present he gives his attention to general farming, but he formerly handled a great deal of fine stock and was one of the leading breeders in this part of the State. Animals from his farm were to be seen at all the fairs and the blue ribbon fell to them more than once. Mr. and Mrs. Crane also shipped large quantities of butter, principally to Chicago, and they still continue the dairy business.

The grandfather of our subject was Zebina Crane, a native of New Jersey and a farmer by occupation. His son, Obadiah the direct progenitor of our subject, was born in the same State and followed the same occupation as his father. The mother of our subject, Lydia Dexter, was born and reared in New York and her father, George Dexter, was a native of Connecticut and a blacksmith by trade. She came to Oakland County, this State in an early day but afterward came to the home of her son and lived with him until her death when fifty-seven years of age. The parental family included thirteen children, ten of whom lived to be adults and nine now survive.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Wayne County, N. Y., January 7, 1826, and was the first-born of his parents. He started out in the world for himself at the early age of twelve years, working for his board and clothes until he was fitted to earn wages. He then worked by the month, still in the East until 1845, when he came to this State. He made his home in Pontiac for a time, working on a farm by the month. He then chopped wood in Lansing, cutting timber that stood in the streets of that place, and he also drove cattle and hauled logs there. Thence he came to Grand River, Ionia County, and during the winter labored as a woodsman near the county seat. He was not of age when he bought the farm upon which he now resides. It was timber land, devoid of improvement and it was necessary for the new owner to begin at the beginning in bringing it under cultivation. He built a little shanty in which he kept "bach" a year, and he then secured a companion in a true-hearted and energetic young woman, who became his wife December 7, 1848.

The bride of Mr. Crane was Sarah D. Way, who was born in Canada and brought to this State when seven years old. Her parents—William and Mary (Honeywell) Way were natives of Dutchess County, N. Y., and Canada respectively. Their family consisted of twelve children—Sarah being the fourth in order of birth. Five daughters and one son are now living. Housekeeping was begun by Mr. and Mrs. Crane in a fashion much more common among pioneers than is perhaps realized by those who are accustomed to modern conveniences. Their dwelling was 10x12 feet, with a stick and clay chimney and one window. The furniture it contained was three chairs with board bottoms, a table made by fastening a board against the wall, and a bedstead formed of poles, also attached to the wall. The young husband worked his land with oxen. He had paid \$2 per acre for the tract.

To Mr. and Mrs. Crane there came five children, of whom we make the following mention: Ellen, wife of James Cramer, lives in Belding; Albert A., who was graduated at Lansing in 1876, is a prominent banker and lawyer in Otsego County, Mich., and agent for the Michigan Central Railroad Company; Oscar T. is farming in Lyons Township;

Theron E. died of diphtheria when seven years and six months old; Eva M. is the wife of James Root and lives in Lyons Township.

The first Presidential vote cast by Mr. Crane was for Zachary Taylor. He has used his influence for the Republican party at almost every election and has been an active political worker. The year that Grover Cleveland was elected President he voted with the Prohibitionists and was a candidate for Representative, missing the election by but a small number of votes. He has, however, returned to the Republican ranks. Since he was first entitled to the right of suffrage he has never failed to deposit his ballot on election day. He is President of the Patrons of Industry. He was for many years School Director and was one of the chief instruments in the building of the first schoolhouse in the neighborhood. He has also been School Collector. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crane belong to the Society of Friends and he has charge of the congregation in Crane District, which is a branch of the Quaker Church in Hudson, Lenawee County, Mich. He has for years been Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Mrs. Crane is as well known in this locality as her husband, as she has lived for fifty-one years on the farm that is now her home, or within three miles of it. Her services in the neighborhood in times of sickness and affliction have been valued and she has a warm place in the hearts of the people.



JUDGE FRANCIS NELSON, one of the most notable and noteworthy residents of Cedar Lake, Montcalm County, is the son of Josiah Nelson, a native of Massachusetts. His grandfather passed away in Middlefield, Otsego County, N. Y., to which place his father came from Ireland in the early years of its settlement. This Irish father was a Protestant and an Orangeman, and served in the Revolutionary War. The father of our subject was a wagon and carriage manufacturer at Middlefield, N. Y., and later in Seneca County and in Niagara County in the same State. He was successful in his business and passed

away at a good old age. He was an Anti-Federalist of those early days. The mother was of English and Welsh descent and a Presbyterian in faith. Only one of the eleven children of this couple died in childhood. The five who now survive are: Emilla, Mrs. Ackerman, who resides near Romeo, Mich.; Franklin, who resides in Detroit; our subject; Harry, who resides in Kalamazoo; and Robert, who makes his home in Battle Creek.

Judge Nelson was born July 15, 1808, in Middlefield, Otsego County, N. Y. He removed when six years old to Seneca County, N. Y., and on the farm learned all the practical work of an agriculturist. When seventeen years old he removed to Niagara County where he remained with his father until he was twenty-two years of age. He then engaged in the lumber business and learned the practical work of a sawyer so that he was soon able to run a mill for his brother. In the spring of 1835 he came to Michigan, traveling by boat to Toledo, and by team from there to Palmyra, Lenawee County. He took charge of a mill there and operated it for some three years. Here he buried his first-born child, a boy of eighteen months. He bought a farm in Madison Township, Lenawee County, built a log house and proceeded to clear the land. He was always interested in politics and was a Whig of the old school. He was made Justice of the Peace which office he filled a number of years. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and being of a hospitable nature kept his latch string always hung out for the itinerant minister. After some years he sold his land and bought a farm of eighty acres in Medina Township.

Mr. Nelson again determined to seek new fields, and in the fall of 1854 he sold his farm and came by team to Gratiot County and purchased one hundred and sixty acres recently brought upon the market by the Government on section 11, of what is now Cambria Township. The last three or four miles of their journey it was necessary to cut their way through the woods. Here he cleared up a small place and built a log house. He probably made the first boards manufactured in the county, using a pit saw. He was among the first settlers

in Gratiot County. The Chippewa Indians were all about him but were peaceful neighbors. He soon placed his farm in good condition and helped in every way to build up the neighborhood.

This enterprising young man helped to organize the county into townships and was the first Supervisor of Arcadia, serving for two years. He was a member of the Board of Supervisors that were active in the county seat controversy and who finally located the county seat at Ithaca. In the fall of 1857 he was elected Probate Judge of Gratiot County. In this responsible position he served for three terms of four years each, holding court every month, and at the end of twelve years he was offered the renomination which he declined. During the first three years of this period he resided at Ithaca, where he built his residence. He helped to build the first Court House and was one of the three partners who built the first saw and grist mill in the county.

Judge Nelson was one of the best and most impartial Probate Judges the county has ever had. He knew and was known by everyone and no one was more highly honored than he. He continued farming in Arcadia until 1879, when he sold his farm and came to Home, Montcalm County. His son, William S., was doing a large business at Cedar Lake. He had laid out the town about this time and was very active in building it up. The Detroit, Lansing & Western Railroad had promised to come through that point, but disappointment was experienced in regard to this railroad, and it went through three miles farther west, leaving the land which had been purchased by the Nelsons less valuable than they had hoped to make it. Of this land, which is now highly improved, the Judge retains only twenty-two acres. Here he engages in gardening and raising small fruits.

The first marriage of our subject was solemnized in Lockport, N. Y., in 1833. He was then united with Miss Deborah Cotton, a native of Canada. This lady was descended from a long line of eminent clergy, the most notable ancestor being John Cotton, of Boston, England. He was a subject of persecution from Archbishop Laud during the reign of Charles I. From these trials and restric-

tions he fled to Boston, Mass., which was named in honor for his old home in England. He was a warm friend of Oliver Cromwell and became the grandfather of Cotton Mather, the distinguished New England divine.

Five children were born to this marriage: William S., Wilbur, Theodore; Sybil, Mrs. Titus J. Andrews, of Alma; and Mary, who died in 1875. The oldest son of Judge Nelson is the founder of Cedar Lake, which he platted and laid out, and was at one time the most active business man in the township. He once owned about eighteen hundred acres of land and ran numerous saw and shingle mills besides carrying on general merchandise. Later he went into the creamery and stock business, and imported the first full-blooded cattle and Shropshire sheep that were brought here. He spread his business over too many different enterprises and was obliged to sell considerable so as to concentrate his efforts. He has now been four and five hundred acres of land, much of which is finely improved and mostly in the hands of tenants. He now resides in Fresno City, Cal., and is carrying on the real-estate business. The second son, Wilbur, enlisted in 1861 in the Eighth Michigan Infantry. He received a flesh wound in the leg and was honorably discharged, but soon re-enlisted and received the commission of Captain of the First Colored Volunteers of Michigan and served in this position until the close of the war. In the fight at James Island he was shot through the lungs but, strange to say, he recovered. By his third wound he lost a finger. He is now at the head of the firm of Nelson, Barber & Co., who are engaged in general merchandising at Ithaca. The third son, the Rev. Theodore Nelson, is in some respects the most distinguished member of this household, having made for himself a reputation as a minister and instructor, not inferior to that of any clergyman in his part of the State. In his boyhood's days he enlisted three times before he could gain the consent of his parents to his entering the army. He finally served from July, 1862, until the close of the war in Company D, Twenty-sixth Michigan Infantry, and received the commission of Second Lieutenant. He is a graduate of Ann Arbor University and after he entered the

ministry was for nine years pastor of the First Baptist Church in East Saginaw. Twice his health failed and his friends in that city sent him abroad to recuperate. He is a man of executive ability, a logical speaker and easily wins the confidence and esteem of all. It was a common saying in East Saginaw that he was pastor not merely of the Baptist Church but of all the city. As the now newly-appointed President of Kalamazoo College he is in a position where his qualities will redound to the good of the State. The confidence, esteem and co-operation of the students are his.

The second marriage of Judge Nelson occurred in 1878. He was thereby united with Mrs. Russell Burgess. Her married life with Judge Nelson extended only over eleven years as she died in December, 1889. The first vote of the subject of our sketch was given for John Quincy Adams. He was anti-Masonic in his politics in the early days. He cast a vote for William Henry Harrison and joined the Republican party in 1854, in which he has been a true-blue ever since. In his early life he found his religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but about 1867 he embraced the doctrines of the Seventh Day Adventists and is now an Elder in that church.

The subject of this sketch is a man of much natural vigor of mind and force of character. His superior judgment, his recognized integrity and blameless character give him an immense influence with his neighbors, which is always exerted for the good of the community.



GEORGE BRAMAN. From lands across the sea many men have come to swell the population of the United States, and Montcalm County is not without her representatives of these enterprising and honest emigrants. One who in Crystal Township has been making his way financially and gaining friends as well, is George Braman, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, September 13, 1849. He is a son of James and Ann Braman, who were of English birth and belonged to an agricultural community. When our

subject was but twelve years old his parents crossed the ocean and came direct to this State, locating in Jackson County. Our subject came here about four months before his parents. The lad was obliged to work and could attend school only during the winter months, so that his educational advantages were meager and confined entirely to the district schools.

Young Braman went to live with an uncle when he was twelve years old, but was mistreated and ran away. He met with an accident and broke his leg, and for some time was helpless on account of the injury. When he recovered he worked in various ways, gaining his own support from his fifteenth year. At the age of eighteen he took a place among the lumbermen and for two years was steadily employed in the woods. He then gave his attention to farming in the summer for a year or two, after which he devoted himself entirely to agricultural work.

Mr. Braman was married March 1, 1867, to Mary A. Bancroft, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, November 28, 1846. She is a capable housewife, is devoted to the interests of her family and makes her home attractive to her own loved ones and their many friends. The marriage has been blest by the birth of six children whose record is as follows: Lizzie, born October 8, 1869; Charles H., October 28, 1871; Adelbert J., October 4, 1874; Manda, November 24, 1876; John W., February 4, 1880; and George A., March 4, 1883. The elder daughter is the only one of the children who has yet left the parental roof and she is now the wife of John Tow, living in the same county as her parents. All have been well educated, both Mr. and Mrs. Braman having taken much interest in their progress.

After his marriage Mr. Braman lived in Jackson and Washtenaw Counties two years, and he then operated his father-in-law's farm in Montcalm County. Thence he came to this place, where his first purchase was of forty acres. To this he has added until his estate now comprises two hundred acres, the greater part of which is under improvement. Mr. Braman did considerable of the clearing himself. The farm is well fenced and among its conspicuous features are three good orchards.

The hay barn is the best in the county and is a large, substantial structure built in 1887. There is also a good horse barn, which was put up in 1889. Mr. Braman takes great interest in good stock and keeps sheep, cattle and horses in considerable numbers.

Mr. Braman has never bothered himself about official station, but keeps well informed, and in national elections votes the Democratic ticket. When local offices are to be filled he makes choice of the man he thinks best fitted to carry out the will of the people, regardless of party affiliations. As he is much interested in the progress of education he has been willing to serve in school offices, and has done the best he could to add to the efficiency of the local institutions of learning. He takes part in enterprises which promise to benefit the people, and has a reputable place in the opinion of the public.



PELEG EDDY of Berlin Township, Ionia County, is the son of Abram Eddy, who was born in Vermont in 1789, and who was one of the farmer volunteers for the War of 1812. Although ready to go into active service he was not called for. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Cynthia Phillips and was born in Rhode Island in 1790. After their marriage in New York they removed to Pennsylvania, and after living awhile in Ohio, came to Michigan in 1834 and settled in Lenawee County, near Fairfield, six miles south of Adrian, where they rented a farm, being then too poor to purchase.

Removing to Ionia County in 1840, Abram Eddy settled on section 2, Berlin Township, and building a log house proceeded to clear off and cultivate the unbroken soil. He had eighty acres originally, forty of which he sold, but afterward added eighty more by purchase, thus having one hundred and twenty at the time of his death, which occurred in 1875. This event was followed two years later by the decease of his wife. Of their twelve children five survive: Diana, Mrs.

Tanner, Gardner, Mrs. I. Harwood, Peleg, and Zephaniah. The mother of this household was a sincere and earnest Christian, a member of the Christian Church. Her husband was a man of strictly temperate habits, a hard worker and an excellent manager. In local politics he took an active part, voting and working for the Democratic party.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born September 24, 1827, in the township of Hamburg, Chautauqua County, N. Y. He came to Michigan when only seven years of age and became an inhabitant of Ionia County at thirteen years of age. He was earnest and unflinching in his efforts to relieve his father in every way possible of the arduous labors incident to pioneer life, and consequently his school education was cut short. He remained at home, helping his father until twenty-eight years of age, and was that parent's mainstay all through the later years of his life.

September 28, 1855, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Ann Eliza Emmons, a native of Jefferson County, N. Y., and who came to Michigan in 1853. After their marriage they settled upon the farm which Mr. Eddy now occupies. There were then no improvements upon this land, and the homestead was only a log house, which is still standing as a memento of those happy days of early married life. Mrs. Eddy was born November 8, 1837, and was called from earth in May, 1873. She and Mr. Eddy were the parents of seven children, six of whom survive their mother. Phila Ann, Mrs. W. L. Carpenter, is the mother of one child and makes her home in Ionia; Abram, who married Elizabeth Frantz, has two children, and lives on section 15, Berlin Township; Frank; Fred, having married Annie Harwood, lives on the farm and has one child; Carrie, wife of Frank Patrick, lives on section 14, and is the mother of one child; Cora, wife of William Sible, living on section 3, also has one child.

Mr. Eddy was again united in the happy bonds of wedlock on Christmas Day, 1886, choosing as his wife, Amanda V. (Hines) Smith, a widowed daughter of Benjamin F. and Aurelia C. (Howk) Hines. Mr. Hines was a native of Chenango County, N. Y., and his wife was born in Lorain

County, Ohio. They were married in Ohio and resided there till 1854, when they came to Michigan and settled on section 18, Berlin Township. He cleared off a farm and improved it. He was a soldier in the Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, a member of Company I, but did not serve through his full course of enlistment on account of illness, being given an honorable discharge before its expiration. He died in 1889 at the age of sixty-five years, leaving his widow, who still resides on the home farm. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are still living. The present Mrs. Eddy is a woman of strong character and quiet and refined manners. She was born November 24, 1853 in Lorain County, Ohio. Educated at the school of Saranac, Mich., she began teaching when only eighteen and for two years ably proved her claim to being a successful and thorough instructor. By a former marriage she had two children: Orpha May, now seventeen years old, and Inez A., fifteen years old. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Eddy—Little Ford entered life May 7, 1889, but was called from earth March 7, 1891, to the great grief of his parents. Mrs. Eddy is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has been active and untiring in Sunday-school work. Her husband has always taken an interest in politics and belongs to the Democratic party. His neighbors have shown their appreciation of his character and sterling qualities by electing him to numerous places of trust. He has been for some years a member of the School Board, is always in charge of the work of Road Overseer and has been Treasurer of Berlin Township. He was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and now belongs to the Patrons of Industry. He carried on mixed farming, with his boys to help him. Of his farm of two hundred and sixty acres, about two hundred are under cultivation.

Over twenty-five years ago our subject began raising running horses, and has had some very fine specimens. Since 1885 he has been breeding trotting stock. His first venture was "Little Topsy," a registered Hambletonian, and dam of "Cleveland S," and four others which he now owns. He has twenty-five head of horses and is an enthusiastic breeder of fine stock. One of his two year-olds

weighs nine hundred and sixty pounds. This colt who was sired by "Montgomery," by dam "Little Topsy," is valued at \$5,000. Another horse was sired by "Commander," by "Volunteer," dam "Little Topsy," whose record is 2:26½.



FRANK FISK, a farmer of Ionia County, has spent the greater part of his life in agricultural work and is still continuing his pursuit in Otisco Township. The estate which he now owns here consists of eighty acres of well-improved land about three miles from the town of Belding. The farm is supplied with various buildings of good construction, affording ample accommodations for the stock and storage room for the crops, and the property taken as a whole is valuable and pleasing to the eye. Mr. Fisk has been identified with the interests of the county some fifty years and represents one of the pioneer families to whose labors the present condition of affairs is so largely due.

Joseph Fisk, father of our subject, was born in Massachusetts and in the town of Ashfield was married to Clarissa Kimberly, daughter of Silas Kimberly. In 1838 he removed to this State, choosing Ionia County as his future place of abode. His good wife died in 1840 and her remains were the first deposited in Otisco cemetery. Mr. Fisk survived until 1877. On coming to this section he bought two hundred acres of land in Otisco Township and at his death he owned three hundred and thirty acres of farm land and ten acres of pine land. During three winters he dealt in lumber. His family comprised four sons and one daughter, their names being Frank, Silas, Ambert, Walter and Emily.

The birth of Frank Fisk occurred in Ashfield, Mass., March 13, 1836, and he was therefore but two years old when he became a resident of Michigan. He remained an inmate of his father's home until he was of age, and during the passing years took advantage of the opportunities afforded for acquiring knowledge, both of textbooks and farm work. Upon reaching his majority he began farming for himself and with the exception of four

years spent in keeping an hotel at Cook's Corners he has given his time and attention to the vocation to which he was reared. He takes no prominent part in public affairs but contents himself with pursuing the even tenor of his way, building up his own finances and enjoying home life and social intercourse. He votes the Republican ticket.

Mr. Fisk was married in Otisco Township in 1861 to Cordelia Tower, daughter of Joseph and Philura (Baldwin) Tower, who were natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Fisk have had four children—Ralph, Frank, Clarissa and Fannie. The sons are deceased; Caddie is married and living in Eaton County; Fannie is yet with her parents.



BENJAMIN H. PRESTON. A position of prominence among the residents of Ronald Township is that which is accorded by generous consent to Mr. Preston, who has been interested in the welfare of this part of Ionia County since the year 1853. His interest in the county dates several years farther back, but at the time mentioned he located on a farm on section 32, and cast in his lot with the people of that locality to the fullest extent. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which but thirty acres had been plowed. He now has a well-developed farm with suitable improvements, and derives from it an income amply sufficient for his needs.

Mr. Preston is the grandson of Benjamin Preston, a Revolutionary soldier, and the son of John A. Preston, who fought in the War of 1812. The latter was born and reared in Vermont and adopted the trade of a stonemason as the work by which to gain a maintenance. He married Orilla Harris, a native of New York, and in the Empire State he made his home from that time. He died in Buffalo, but his widow breathed her last in this State, to which she afterward came with her children. The parental family included four daughters and two sons, one of whom died in early life, and one, Mrs. Orilla Hancock, in later years. The survivors are Mrs. Betsey R. Norton, whose home is in Eaton County, this State; Benjamin H., subject

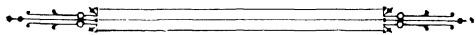
of this notice; Mrs. Mary Ann Ford, living in Oakland County; and Clark A., whose home is in the city of Ionia.

Our subject, who is the oldest son and second child, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., September 12, 1820. He was thirteen years old when his father died, and he became the mainstay of his mother and the guide of his brothers and sisters. The year of his father's death he came West with his mother and located in Troy, Oakland County, this State. He learned the tailor's trade and followed it in that place until 1843. He then located in the city of Ionia and for about two years worked at his trade with E. S. Johnson, after which he engaged in business for himself. Ten years altogether were given to his handicraft in the county seat, and he then sold out his business and bought the farm to the cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies.

In 1846 Mr. Preston was married to Miss Caroline E. Brooks, and to them have been born one daughter and three sons, named respectively: Frances A.; Howard C. and Benjamin H. (twins), and Harley. They also adopted a little girl—Maggie Brook, on whom they bestowed equal care with their own offspring. Mrs. Preston, who is the first-born in a family of ten children, is a native of Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y., her natal day being October 7, 1824. She is now afflicted with paralysis, which makes it very difficult for her to talk, and prevents the use of one side of her body.

Mr. Preston is Vice-President of Ionia County Pioneer Society and been one of its leading members for years. He was at one time Secretary of the organization. For four years he was Supervisor of Ronald Township and for twelve years Superintendent of the Poor, and he has also served as School Inspector and Justice of the Peace. He was at one time a member of the Grange and active in its work. It is twenty-six years since he was chosen an Elder in the Christian Church, and his qualifications for that responsible office are recognized by all who know him well. Mr. Preston has for thirty years kept a record of the weather and other incidents of the day and is able to compare the atmospheric phenomena of the passing time

with that of bygone years whenever he wishes. He has learned many lessons about the weather by means of this practice and found pleasure also in the record.



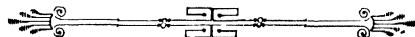
BARVEY J. BEACH is carrying on a general store in Crystal, Montcalm County, which establishment he opened in April, 1888. He has a well-selected stock of goods, including the articles that are in demand for village and country custom, and the business is conducted in a straightforward and honorable way, the customers being treated with courtesy and consideration. Prior to the opening of the store that is now carried on by Mr. Beach, he was engaged in farming, and he improved a fine tract of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he made his home from February, 1868, to the date of his taking up mercantile life. As an agriculturist he was enterprising and industrious, and he received a due reward for his efforts.

The birthplace of Mr. Beach was Eric County, Pa., and his natal day March 7, 1836. His parents were Lyman E. and Selinda (Fuller) Beach, both natives of the Empire State, and his father was a carpenter and joiner as well as a farmer. Our subject remained at home until he was twenty-five years old, but from the age of two years has been a resident of this State, his parents having come to Livingston County in 1838. He received a common-school education, pursuing his studies in the winter and working on the farm in the summer.

Believing that it is not good for man to live alone, Mr. Beach won for his wife Miss Sarah M. Carey, of Pontiac, Oakland County, to whom he was married October 7, 1863. She was born October 17, 1839, was well reared and given a good education. She understands the art of making her home cozy and attractive, and takes great pains to make herself companionable for her children. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Beach consisted of Florence, who was born in August 26, 1864, and died January 7, 1865; Silvia Ann, born June 2, 1866, and died January 26, 1871; Hattie M., born April 26,

1868; Nellie V., June 26, 1874; Laura, December 4, 1875; and Bertram J., January 18, 1879. The survivors are receiving good educational opportunities, and Nellie has made preparation for teaching.

Mr. Beach is a Democrat in politics. He has held the office of Township Treasurer several terms and was Highway Commissioner three terms. While living on the farm he was a school officer for a long period, and he has been called upon to act in similar capacities in the village. He is particularly interested in the progress of the cause of education, and has assisted in carrying to completion a schoolhouse in Livingston County, and two in Montcalm — one being the new two-story brick edifice in Crystal. Mr. Beach is always looked to, to take part in public enterprises of every description that promise well for the future good of the people, and he and his wife were well regarded by their acquaintances. Mrs. Beach's death occurred November 2, 1884, and her loss was felt by many friends, and was an irreparable one to her family.



THOMAS D. KNAPP is one of a family of thirteen children, and was born in Bradford County, Pa., November 8, 1834. His father Zephaniah Knapp, a native of the Empire State, was born in Orange County, and his mother Amy Wright, was a native of Onondaga County the same State. After marrying in New York they removed to Pennsylvania. Thomas was the tenth child, and was reared in his native home and came to Michigan in 1856, settling in Ionia County, in Ronald Township. He now lives in North Plains Township of the same county.

This young man began life in the new country by working at the carpenter's trade by the month. He has followed the business of carpentering for many years. February 28, 1856, Lucy L. Coats of New York became his wife. After marriage he returned with his wife to Bradford County, Pa., where he remained two years, but he was discontented with the East after having once lived in the West, and soon returned to Michigan making his

new home where he now resides. He took entirely unbroken land, and has placed upon it all the improvements which now appear, putting up also all the buildings. Of the one hundred and ninety-five acres which he possesses, sixty-one are in North Plains and the remainder in Ronald Township. He still has fifty acres of heavy timber.

Mr. and Mrs. Knapp are happy in the companionship of their son, Arthur M. He is married and resides with his father. His wife was Eliza Borden. Their second son, Ernest, died at the age of three years and three months. Arthur runs the farm and is very efficient. They have sixteen head of cattle, eight head of horses, sixty-two sheep, and one fine blooded Percheron. They have a forty-acre farm in Montcalm County, Boomer Township, all finely cultivated with a good house and barns. Mr. Knapp has made all that he has by hard work. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church. His political sympathies are with the Republican party with which he casts his vote.



WILLIAM ADGATE holds a position of influence in Ionia County, particularly in the township of the same name, in the affairs of which he is conspicuous as a leader on the side of progress. He occupies a fine estate on section 32, which includes two hundred and eighty-five acres of land, two hundred and fifty of which are under the plow. The present residence of the family is a fine brick structure, built five years since at a cost of \$3,000. On the land there is a house built by Mrs. Adgate's father over forty years ago, in which a death has never occurred. All the improvements upon Mr. Adgate's farm are firstclass and so carefully is the property managed that throughout its extent it presents an appearance of the most attractive neatness and order.

Mr. Adgate traces his descent from two Revolutionary soldiers, both of whom belonged to old New England families. Grandfather Adgate, whose given name was Thomas, survived the contest and lived to be ninety-seven years old; Grandfather

Foster also fought during the entire struggle. The patriotic spirit of the Adgate family was further manifested by Abel Adgate, the father of our subject, who was an infantryman in the War of 1812. That gentleman was born in Connecticut and so too was Olive Porter, who became his wife. They were married in New Jersey and for a time resided in Orange County, N. Y., and then took their place among the pioneers of Sullivan County. He used to carry on lumbering upon the Susquehanna River. He went into Cortland County about 1829, remained there until 1838 and then came to Oakland County, this State.

In the fall of that year Abel Adgate bought property now occupied by our subject; he did not take possession of it until 1841, but spent the interval in work upon different rented farms. This tract was partly improved, but the only building was a log shanty. The family took possession of their new home March 3, and clearing was at once begun. Wheat was sowed on twelve acres the first season, and a frame house was built ere long. Mr. Adgate was a Whig, and was an advocate of education and bestowed as good privileges as he could upon his children. He died October 3, 1842, at the age of fifty-six years and five months. His widow survived until November 7, 1871, and reached the age of eighty-four years and three months. For many years she was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In Sullivan County, N. Y., William Adgate was born November 20, 1829. He is the only survivor of a household band that numbered seven brothers and sisters. He was nine years old when his parents came to this State, and he began life's labors for himself at the age of sixteen years. He operated half of the homestead, the rest being under control of his brother. Prior to his marriage his mother kept house for him and he cared for her until her demise. In the summer of 1854 Mr. Adgate went to Iowa but made only a short trip, after which he settled in Orange Township, Ionia County, and made that his home five years. He then traded his farm for one in Berlin Township, but four years later sold out and returned to his old home, where he has remained during a period of twenty-seven years.

The marriage of our subject and Sarah Tuttle was solemnized January 7, 1854. The bride was born in Portage County, Ohio, May 1, 1838, but in her early girlhood became a resident of Ionia County. She received a common-school education and a thorough training in housewifely arts, and grew to a noble womanhood. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Phebe A., born January 21, 1855; Franklin April 20, 1858; Mary J. September 9, 1861; Flora E. December 9, 1863; John W. June, 1866; Lewis, June 29, 1868; Nellie January 8, 1876. Phebe married Fred Scheuer and has four children, and her home is in Orange Township. Franklin married Lizzie Fleming, has one child, and lives in the same township as his sister Phebe. Mary is the wife of Frank Taft, and has four children; their home is on section 33, Ionia Township. John married Nellie Wilson and lives in Berlin Township. All the sons and daughters of our subject are well educated in accordance with their years, and Nellie is now a student in the Ionia High School. Flora is a graduate in the musical department of Albion College and has a large class in Ionia and Portland. She plays the organ in church.

The parents of Mrs. Adgate were Nelson and Sophia (Pangborn) Tuttle, the father born in Massachusetts December 24, 1800, and the mother in Ohio about 1802. They were married in the latter State and remained there until 1846, then settled upon the farm that is now the home of their daughter. Here Mr. Tuttle died in 1865. She was the mother of eleven children, five of whom are now living. Mr. Tuttle made a second marriage, and lived until August, 1890. His memory is honored by all who knew him and probably no resident in the county was more sincerely loved and respected than he. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a Class-Leader for over seventy years. He also acted as Steward and Trustee, was for years Superintendent of the Sunday-school and did an immense amount of church work. He was a liberal supporter of churches and did what he could to advance all elevating movements. He built the first Methodist church south of Grand River about 1855. For years he was a

member of the School Board. He never neglected his duty at elections, but conscientiously deposited a Whig ticket until the disorganization of the party, after which he was an earnest Republican. It was his privilege to vote for two Harrisons for President of the United States.

Mr. Adgate is the leading contributor to the support of the neighboring Methodist Episcopal Church and both he and his wife work earnestly and faithfully for the cause of religion both in church and Sunday school. Mr. Adgate is one of the Trustees, is Chairman of the Board, and is also a Class-Leader. He has been a professing Christian twenty-one years and his wife united with the church thirty-five years since. Mr. Adgate was a Republican for years but since the prohibition movement sprang into life he has voted in its favor. He has a character above reproach and as an agriculturist is second to none in the county. He carries on mixed farming and feeds about three hundred head of sheep. His elegant home is the seat of a whole-souled hospitality that is dispensed with graciousness by his good wife.



GEORGE W. PALMER. Many a youth in foreign lands has looked longingly toward the West and dreamed of making a home in the New World, where he fondly believed that better opportunities were afforded than in the land of his birth; and numbers have realized their dreams and are now among the prosperous and useful citizens of the United States. The population of Montcalm County has been added to by some of this class and among them the gentleman above named, whose home is in Bloomer Township. His history is that of a youth whose early advantages were limited and who upon reaching the New World found it hard work to get a start, but who finally gained a footing and added little by little to his financial standing and is now a well-to-do farmer with a pleasant home abounding in comforts.

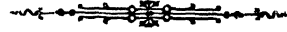
Mr. Palmer was born in East Kent, England, July 22, 1825, his parents being Joseph and Eliza-

beth (Chamberlain) Palmer. His father was a farmer and until he was fifteen years old the lad remained at home, learning what he could in the common school and doing various kinds of work upon the place. He then left home and began to work for himself, and in his twentieth year he crossed the Atlantic and located in Jefferson County, N. Y. There he farmed until the spring of 1855, when he came to Michigan. He found Montcalm County a densely wooded region where little had been done in the way of improvement. He took up eighty acres of land and began clearing it, and undismayed by the arduousness of the labor required, by the discomforts and hardships of frontier life, and the lack of close associates, he worked on toward competence. He added to his landed estate, made various improvements from time to time, beginning to have help in his work as soon as he got a good start. When he first located here he went eight miles to Mattison to trade.

In all his worthy efforts Mr. Palmer has had the sympathy and womanly aid of a true-hearted wife. This lady bore the maiden name of Esther Hay Nutting, was born in New York and became a bride March 7, 1855. Her wedding trip was a journey to the western wilds, where the young couple arrived May 19. They have had four children, whose record is as follows: Cora A., born January 10, 1856; Beccher, April 5, 1858; Joseph, March 27, 1860; Alden G., March 11, 1862. The daughter died after reaching womanhood, the date of her decease being September 1, 1880, and Joseph died April 29, 1860, when but a few weeks old. The two sons who are living are married and farming in Gratiot County.

A characteristic that is almost universal among Englishmen—that of steadfastness in any line of conduct once decided upon—is shown by Mr. Palmer in his political relations. Having made up his mind that the Republican party was the one entitled to his suffrage, he is unswerving in his allegiance to its principles. He has held the various school offices and whether in or out shows an interest in the increase of the efficiency of the public schools. As to his business in life he has not only placed his farm in excellent condition, supplying it with the buildings before mentioned, substantial

fences and a growing orchard, but he raises stock of good breeds, the cattle being Durhams and the sheep Shropshires.



JONATHAN TIBBITS. American aristocracy like that of foreign lands is based upon birth, but unlike that of trans-Atlantic birth, its foundation is character, which has descended from father to son through generations. Thousands of our sturdy, prosperous men throughout the State are descended from old families of New England, who have from the earliest settlement of the country upheld an honored reputation for sterling integrity and all the qualities which make good citizens. Among these farmers of good descent we find Jonathan Tibbits, son of Stephen Tibbits a native of Rhode Island, born in 1768. In this family were five brothers of remarkable longevity, who averaged ninety years of a worthy life. Stephen Tibbits, while a farmer by occupation took some part in the War of 1812. The mother of Jonathan was Sophia (Mason) Tibbits, who was also a native of Rhode Island.

The family of Tibbits during the Revolutionary War, removed from Rhode Island to Shaftsbury, Vt. About 1790 they again removed to Oneida County, N. Y. There the father and mother of our subject were married and resided during the continuance of their lives. They were among the early pioneers of that splendid representative county of Central New York, which was early peopled by the best New England stock. He owned and worked one of the magnificent farms of that county, until his death in 1864, at the advanced age of ninety-six years. His wife had died in the year 1856. They were the parents of ten children, three of whom are now living.

Jonathan Tibbits was born January 21, 1809, in Oneida County, N. Y., where he grew to manhood. He received a fair schooling for those times, as that region was considerably advanced educationally. His bright memory still aids him to recall many of the incidents of the War of 1812 as they transpired in the Mohawk Valley. At nineteen years

of age he went to New York City and worked in a harness shop at No. 8 Wall Street, within sight of Trinity Church, and where now is the busy scene of wonderful financial enterprises. Remaining there only a year and a half to learn his trade, he returned home and settled in Frankfort, Herkimer County, near Utica, where for a few years he had a shop and worked at his trade.

In 1836 our subject emigrated to Michigan and on September 21, arrived in Ionia County, where he settled in what was then the little village of Ionia, composed of a few scattering houses. For twenty years he lived in town and followed his business of a harness-maker, after which he removed with his family to the present homestead on section 27. There were but few improvements upon that section. His farm was originally a part of the Sessions' farm. Of his one hundred and twenty acres of land he has seventy under cultivation and although now over four-score years of age he still actively carries on his farm. His experience in this country has been a long one and he has seen it grow from a wild state to its present condition of cultivation, physical and social. His wife is quite feeble, having lately fallen and hurt herself and is in consequence confined to her bed. They were married March 1, 1832, she being Mary Ann Dexter, a daughter of Samuel and Anna (Fargo) Dexter.

Mr. Dexter was the first settler in Ionia County, and was throughout his life the most notable man there. He was born December 5, 1787, in Rhode Island, removing when quite young to Herkimer County, N. Y., where he lived until 1823. His wife was a native of Herkimer County. After this marriage he continued to carry on his business of farming and at the same time served the State during 1824 and 1825 as a member of the State Legislature at Albany. In 1833 they removed to Michigan and settled in Ionia County. He was the leader of the original colony of thirty-six people which settled in Ionia. He was a broad-minded and practical man, looking to the upbuilding of the colony in every way and providing by his enterprise for their convenience in many directions. He built the gristmill at Ionia, the first one in the county, also the sawmill two miles northwest of

Ionia. A sawmill was evidently a stern necessity, for until boards could be obtained frame houses could not be erected, and this colony did not hesitate to live in Indian wigwams until they could build permanent homes. As was the case with most colonies of character, they were able to live peaceably with the Indians and established friendly relations with them.

Mr. Dexter bought a large quantity of land and sold much of it to others. He also purchased considerable land where Grand Rapids now stands. His first house was of logs and situated near the gristmill in Ionia. His character and enterprise gave him the confidence of his neighbors and he received many tributes of their respect as he was often placed in positions of trust. He occupied at different times the offices of Justice of the Peace, and County Judge. He was also Receiver of the United States land office. He belonged to the old-line Whig party in politics, and was a member of the Baptist Church during his early years, but later became a Spiritualist. He died in 1855, his wife following him to the other world in 1874. They were the parents of nine children three of whom are now living.

Mrs. Tibbits was the second child of this notable couple and was born March 16, 1815, in Herkimer County, N. Y., where she married Mr. Tibbits just before coming to Michigan in 1835. This marriage has been blessed with nine children: Newton D., was born January 21, 1833, and died January 1, 1862; Charles S., was born March 16, 1835, and died August 23, 1890. He was employed at one time for two years by Gilmore & Salisbury, of Star Route fame. Julius S. was born September 26, 1838, in Ionia, and married Marilla T. Mattison. They live in Lyons Township. Arthur H. was born July 20, 1842, and married Elizabeth Overhiser; they make their home in Greenville and have two children. Anna Z., who was born June 18, 1844, is the wife of William Gleason, living at Savanna, Ill., and has three children. Emma N., born November 22, 1847, and wife of Dr. T. M. Benedict, lives at Greenville and has two children. James H., born April 28, 1850, married Lillie Brooks; he is Fifth Auditor in the Treasury Department and makes his home in Washington, D. C.

He has one daughter. Elizabeth M., was born September 19, 1852. Jennie M. born August 2, 1855, is taking a special course in preparation for kindergarten work in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tibbits has always been a good Republican in politics and has occupied many prominent positions of public responsibility. He has taken an active interest in school matters and has been one of the Directors of the district. Under President Millard Fillmore, he was Postmaster at Ionia. He was long a member of the Sons of Temperance, and he and his sons have ever been strong advocates of temperance, both in word and deed. The family are Unitarians in faith. Two of his sons, Arthur and Charles did noble service during the Civil War. The former enlisted in Berdan's Sharpshooters for six months. He then re-enlisted in Battery D, Fifth United States Light Artillery and served his term in that. He was active in eighteen battles, and during the battle of Gettysburg he was at one time the only living man to stand at his gun. Charles was living in Wisconsin during the war and enlisted first in the Third Wisconsin Infantry. This was a regiment raised in 1861 for a short time only. In 1863 he re-enlisted in the Fifth Wisconsin Infantry. His service of three years shows a fine war record. Joseph was drafted once and paid \$300 to be released.



GEORGE W. ARMS, living on section 25, Orange Township, Ionia County, was the first white male child born in the township, his father being Selah Arms, a native of Rutland County, Vt., born there in 1809, and his mother before marriage being Mariette Utter, a native of New York. The family originated in the north of England and Noah Arms, the father of Selah, a Vermonter, served bravely in the War of 1812. The father of our subject was one of the early settlers of Michigan, coming here in 1834 when still quite a young man. He settled upon the farm now owned by our subject, taking it up from the Government in 1836. He was the first pioneer in this township and in due time helped to organize it.

He entered eighty acres of land all timbered, and bravely putting his last money into it looked to his strong right hand for future wealth. Shortly after settling upon this land he married the mother of the subject of this sketch. Both of them were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the affairs of which they took an active interest. He was a prominent man in the church, warmly promoting its interests and keeping open house for all the traveling brethren, and liberally supporting its finances. In all other ways he showed a corresponding liberality and was ever a warm and efficient friend to the unfortunate. His first house was a log shanty, but two years later he erected a more substantial log house. In 1852 or 1853 a frame house became the home and it was considered one of the very nicest in that section. Unfortunately it burned to the ground in 1865. He cleared off eighty acres of his land and put it under cultivation. Two years after marriage he had a serious illness which rendered one of his limbs stiff.

Mr. Arms knew every man in this county and nearly all in Clinton County. The first frame barn in Orange Township was built by him nearly fifty years ago. He used to do coopering and made a large number of sap buckets. He was fairly successful in his farming operations notwithstanding a great deal of illness and other misfortunes. He died in 1865, his wife having preceded him in 1851. Three of their five children still survive—George W., James and Ruth (Mrs. Charles Hastings). He was a strong Jacksonian Democrat, was for twenty-two years Justice of the Peace, also for some time Supervisor of Orange Township and Superintendent of the Poor.

The subject of this sketch was born October 21, 1842. His education, after the district school, was taken at the Portland High School. Then he began for himself at seventeen years of age; when at that age the Civil War broke out and he enlisted in May, 1861, in Company E, Third Michigan Infantry. The regiment was organized at Grand Rapids and was ordered to Washington, D. C., where it was put in the Third Brigade under Col. Richardson. They were in the first battle of Bull Run in July, 1861. He received a slight wound at Blackburn's Ford. His brigade covered the retreat from

Bull Run, and at Arlington Heights they were encamped about the residence of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Our subject helped build three of the forts in that locality.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Arms went through the entire Peninsular campaign under Gen. George B. McClellan and passed through ten battles without a scratch. Under Gen. Pope he took part in the second battle of Bull Run and here received the most serious wound which he experienced. August 29, while he was loading his gun a minie ball struck his right leg and passed through it just above his heel, entering his left ankle. He crawled upon his hands and knees a mile and a half to an ambulance, in which he rode two miles to the field hospital. He lay there a day and a night then traveled ten miles in the ambulance to a railroad track and lay beside it for two days; then on a flat car he was transported to Washington, D. C. From the station at Washington he was put into an omnibus and lying on the floor of it was rattled over the cobble stones to Georgetown Hospital. Great difficulty was experienced in locating and extracting the ball. Amputation was deferred from day to day hoping against hope that the limb might be saved. Fifteen days after his arrival it was finally decided that it could no longer be postponed and the left leg was amputated below the knee. He remained a year in the hospital and received his honorable discharge in August, 1863.

Upon his return home George Arms went to school for a while and in 1865 he went to work upon the home farm where he has since lived excepting one year which he passed at Portland. He has eighty acres of land, all of it improved. He built his present residence three years ago at a cost of \$2,600 besides his own labor. He does active work upon his farm, carrying on mixed farming. He has Short-horn cattle, also some fine specimens of horses both for draft and roadsters. He has one of the finest Short-horn herds registered in Ionia County. He began his herd in 1882 with "Lady Thornapple," No. 20. She is recorded in volume 26, page 491. She was of "Young Mary" family, tracing back to "Young Mary" by "Jupiter" No. 21,070. He has nine of this grade of cattle, including "Lady Thornapple" and her descendants. At the

head of his present herd is "Gladstone" No. 86,708, bred on the farm of the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing. He is a Victoria Dutchess recorded in volume 33, page 161 of the American Short-horn Herd Book; calved May 25, 1887; is of red color. His dam's sire was twenty-third "Duke of Airdrie," who was valued at \$10,000 and the most noted one ever owned in Michigan. "Gladstone" was sired by "Fennel, Duke 2d" of Sideview, Ky. He has eight distinct Duke top crosses; he took first premium at the Ionia Fair in the fall of 1890.

On the 5th of October, 1867, the marriage was solemnized between George W. Arms and Miss Alvira King, a daughter of Platt B. and Diantha (Beals) King, both natives of the Empire State who removed from there to Ohio about 1833. Mr. King was one of the pioneer farmers of the Western Reserve, and made a permanent home there, where he died sixteen years ago. His wife still survives him and now at the age of eighty-five years lives at Oberlin, Ohio, with one of her daughters. Four of the six children are now living: Harriet, Mrs. Avery; Abiah, Mrs. Whitney; Mary, Mrs. Whitney; and Mrs. Arms. The wife of our subject was born June 22, 1845, in Ohio; she received a good education, completing her school days at Oberlin College. She taught school previous to her marriage. Her parents were close communion Baptists and her father held responsible positions in the church. In politics he was a strong Republican and was an earnest promoter of the Abolition movement.

To Mr. and Mrs. Arms have been born two children: Frank C., born December 21, 1868; he has a good education, having completed his studies at Oberlin College and is now an artist at Portland. Clara M., born October 1, 1875, is at present a student in the Portland High School. Mr. Arms is a charter member of the Grand Army Post at Lyons. For many years he has been a member of the School Board. He has been frequently elected to township offices, but never qualifies; he is a Democrat in politics. He now has two hundred trees on his place and will set out six hundred more this spring; he purposes to have one thousand. He is the only person now living in this district who was a pupil in the first school organized here.

Forty-six years ago when his father was taken down with the fever there were no doctors here. His wife left with the neighbors her two babies and putting her husband in a one-horse wagon upon a bed took him to Harrisville, Medina County, Ohio, for treatment. Our subject was one of the babies whom this brave mother left in the kind care of benevolent neighbors.



ERI LEVALLEY. This name is not unknown to the residents of Ionia County, but on the contrary is familiar to them as that of a pioneer who has witnessed a large part of the growth of this section. It is also recognized by its connection with the fruit-growing carried on in this part of the State, as he who bears it has long been engaged in the nursery business and was the first man in the county to raise peaches. He set out the first peach orchard and he has done much in propagating other varieties of fruit.

Mr. LeValley belongs to a family whose history contains several interesting and romantic incidents. His paternal grandfather, a Revolutionary soldier, married a sister of Gen. Greene, and settled in Vermont. His father in turn was a silk merchant of Lyons, France, and was robbed on the high seas by the notorious pirate, Capt. Kidd. After the robbery he was placed on board a schooner which floated into Providence Harbor and he laid out the city of that name. The father of our subject was Holden LeValley, who was born in Vermont and in his early manhood settled in Western New York. He was a soldier in the War of 1812 and was stationed at Black Rock, near Buffalo, when that city was burned by the English. He married Irena Fuller.

The birth of Eri LeValley took place in Niagara County, N. Y., August 9, 1817, and he lived there until he was six years old. His parents died when our subject was five years old and he was taken at the age of six years to live with relatives in Ontario County where he grew to manhood and was reared to farming and fruit-growing. In these

lines he has been engaged all his life. His education was begun in the district schools and has been continued by self-effort. In 1838 Mr. LeValley came to Michigan on a prospecting tour and sojourned in Ionia County about two and a half years. He then went back East and in 1844 came again to this State, this time to make a permanent location.

Mr. LeValley settled in Ionia Township on section 32, taking up his residence in the thick woods, and like all who made such location, enduring many hardships and being obliged to toil laboriously in order to develop his land. When he came hither Ionia was a village with but three frame houses within its limits. He was obliged to work by the month to pay for his first eighty acres of land, but his perseverance was rewarded and as years passed by he was enabled to give his children a fair start in life and to divide a considerable property among them. His personal possession of real estate is now thirty eight acres of good land, nearly half of which is devoted to nursery stock. He made a small beginning in this business in 1846, and afterward made it more extensive.

In the Empire State in 1843 Mr. LeValley was married to Miss Emeline Hartt. Her father was a captain in the American army operating on the Niagara frontier in 1812 and was also in the battle of Lundy's Lane. Having been bereft of his wife Mr. LeValley was married a second time in 1846. His bride on this occasion was Phebe, daughter of Nelson Tuttle, now deceased, who is remembered as one of the early pioneers of Ionia County. This marriage has been blest by the birth of six children, but two have been taken from their parents by death. The survivors are Lewis H., who lives in Ionia Township; Harriet, wife of Abel Benedict, in Benedict Township; John, a resident of Easton Township, and Mary, wife of James Gaul in Ionia Township. Mrs. Phebe LeValley entered into rest September 29, 1890, leaving behind her many friends, among whom her days had been spent in usefulness.

Mr. LeValley has served as Justice of the Peace of Ionia Township two terms. He has been known as a public-spirited and enterprising citizen and one who in his business affairs is the soul of integrity,

making his word as good as his bond. That he is held in high esteem by his fellow-pioneers is shown by their having elected him President of the Ionia County Pioneer Society. In politics he is a Republican. Personally he is a courteous, entertaining gentleman who dispenses hospitality with a free hand and who, although considerably past threescore and ten years old, does not lack in interest in that which is going on around him.



SAMUEL DAVIS. Among the farmers of Ionia County who have taken a part in the initial work of development is Samuel Davis, who is located on section 19, Otisco Township. His possessions here include one hundred and forty acres of real estate, much of which was cleared and broken with his assistance. One hundred and twenty acres is under improvement, and the buildings include a substantial farmhouse and barn and a large shed, together with other needful structures. This farm has been the home of Mr. Davis since 1868, and he has lived in the township for a much longer period.

William Davis, father of our subject, was an Englishman who emigrated to America early in the '40s, and after spending a few years in New York came to Michigan in 1849. He settled in Ionia County, first working land on shares, but in 1856 buying one hundred and twenty acres of land. When called hence in 1876, his estate was reduced to forty acres, the balance having been sold to his children. He was married to Elizabeth Talbott, who was also a native of the mother country and she shared his fortunes until 1862, when she closed her eyes in death. Their children were William, Henry, Samuel, James, Sally A., Alfred, Mary E., Thomas E., Harriet and Caroline.

The subject of this brief biographical sketch was born in England in 1839, and was three years old when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents. He was a lad of ten years when he first became acquainted with the county, for which he has so long and industriously labored as one of its enterprising agriculturists. In March, 1864, he became a pri-

vate in the Second Sharp-Shooters Company, Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, and had the fortune to be present as an active participant in the battles of Ream's Station, Preble's Farm, Ft. Stedman and Ft. Hell, and many other engagements. He was discharged July 26, 1865, and rejoicing in the cessation of hostilities and the preservation of the Union he returned to his home.

The marriage of Mr. Davis and Miss Adeline E. Church was solemnized at the bride's home June 28, 1868. Mrs. Davis is a lady of intelligence and good judgment, one of a large family born to Silas and Sophia (Keeney) Church. Our subject and his wife are the parents of three children, who bear the names of Lizzie, Frank and Vern.

The first Presidential ballot cast by Mr. Davis was for Abraham Lincoln, and from that time to the present he has been an unfaltering Republican. He keeps himself well-informed regarding topics of general interest, manifests the true public spirit in his care for the general welfare, and conducts himself in a manner befitting an honorable man.



MERTON E. TOWN. Among the young men who are factors in the financial growth of Montcalm County is Mr. Town, who is located in Crystal Township and is carrying on a general merchandise business. He was born in Livingston County May 18, 1863, and is a son of Ira C. and Emma (Beach) Town. The surroundings of his early life were such as are common in agricultural communities, his father being a farmer, and prior to his twentieth year his educational privileges were those of the common school. He then went to Detroit and entered the commercial school known as the Spencerian Institute, but which has since been merged with Bryant and Stratton's College. He devoted a year to study there, then returned to his father's house and spent a twelvemonth in work upon the farm.

During his youth Mr. Town had devoted the summers to farm work, attending school during the winters only, and he became thoroughly acquainted with the details of agricultural life. When



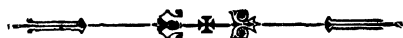
Joshua S. Hall.



Sarah A Hall.

he left home the second time he went to Auburn, Bay County, and became salesman and book-keeper for Ira E. Swart, with whom he remained five years. He then came to Crystal, Montcalm County, and bought the stock of goods belonging to H. H. Steffey and has been carrying on business with very satisfactory results. His parents are now living within five miles of the village, having come to the township in the spring of 1865.

Mr. Town has never sought office and limits his political work to informing himself regarding party principles and issues of the day and voting the Democratic ticket. He takes an interest in all public enterprises that promise to increase the prosperity of the section in which he lives, or add to the welfare of the people. He is quite popular and is looked upon as one of the rising young men of the neighborhood.



JOSHUA S. HALL, one of the prominent pioneers of Ionia County, has his home on section 1, Easton Township. It is interesting to hear him tell of his experience and those of his fellows in the years during which this part of the commonwealth was being reclaimed from its primitive wildness and made productive of things suitable for the wants of man. That his worldly efforts have been crowned with success and that he is well supplied with the comforts of life, is a source of satisfaction to all who appreciate the work of those who formed the van guard of civilization.

The parents of our subject were Henry and Ruth (Stark) Hall, both of whom were born in New England. The father was a soldier during a part of the time that hostilities were raging between America and England, on account of the impressment of men into the British service on the plea of their being subjects of the Crown. Joshua Hall was born in New London County, Conn., February 24, 1816, and spent his boyhood on a farm. He attended school principally during the winter season and gained such knowledge as he could under the system in force at that time. He was not yet of

age when, in the fall of 1836 he came to Ionia County and bought one hundred and fourteen acres on section 6, Ionia Township, paying \$1.25 per acre.

For a time Mr. Hall worked by the day, endeavoring to get a start in life, and for several years he was engaged by the month. The first building put up on his land was a log cabin, 14x14 feet, covered with boards, in which he lived for some time and kept bachelor's hall. After his marriage he settled on a new place in Orleans Township, but lived there only a short time ere returning to his old farm. He necessarily passed through such privations as were common in clearing the land, but little by little his aim was accomplished. In 1875 he came to his present home, which was partially cleared and developed and upon which he has continued the process. He has here eighty-two acres which is now well developed and affords a satisfactory income, as from it are harvested crops of good quality and at least average quantity.

The wedding day of Mr. Hall and Miss Sarah A. Haight was September 18, 1842. The bride was born in New York City, March 6, 1822, and was descended in the paternal line from English and German ancestors and in the maternal from English and French. Her father, Marvin G. Haight, was born in the Empire State and served in the War of 1812, with the commission of Captain. He married Jane Lynch and they had eight children, six of whom are still living. In 1834 the Hights came to this State, making their home in Washtenaw County, whence, during the '40s' they came to Ionia. Mrs. Hall was well prepared for the life of a pioneer's wife and has nobly discharged the duties that have fallen to her lot. To her and her husband seven children have been born: Henry J. and Luther E. now living in Orleans Township; Arthur N., in Ionia Township; John, in Easton Township; Ruth, wife of Perry Freeman, in Boston Township; Frank, in Easton Township, and Ada at home. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have been the happy possessors of twenty-five grandchildren of whom three are deceased.

Mr. Hall was Justice of the Peace several years while living in Orleans Township. As would be expected of a man who had the courage to pene-

trate the wilderness and make a home there, he has been in favor of those movements which would improve the condition of society and advance the developing process in the county. In politics he is a Republican and all his sons vote as he does. He voted at the first county election in Ionia County, held in 1837. Mr. Hall belongs to the Pioneer Society of the county.

Mrs. Hall and her daughter Ada and several other members of the family belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Hall for a number of years was a member of the Church of the Disciples, but is not at present connected with any religious body. Mrs. Hall is one of the pioneer teachers of the county, having taught the first district school in Orleans Township. She had the tact and intelligence to make her school a good one and as long as she continued her professional work her services were in demand. She has never forgotten that she was once a teacher, and sympathizes in a high degree with all educational progress and the efforts of every instructor.

Elsewhere in this volume are presented lithographic portraits of Mr. Hall and his wife.



EMERSON VANCE. After more than a decade of active agricultural work Mr. Vance is enjoying the comforts derived from his industrious labors, in a beautiful home in Pewano, Ionia County. His dwelling is handsome, well-fitted and pleasantly located, and was bought by him in 1889, together with the three lots surrounding it. He has also a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 29, Lebanon Township, Clinton County, and other land adjoining, and may well be called a successful farmer. He operated the homestead from 1868 to 1889, during that time completing its improvement and building upon it a good residence, barn and other structures.

The parents of our subject were John and Cornelia A. (Dean) Vance, natives of Yates County, N. Y. They came to this State in 1838 and took their place among the early settlers of Clinton County, locating on the west half of the northeast quarter

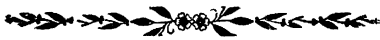
of section 30, Lebanon Township. There the husband built a house of tamarack logs, which gave him the name among the Indians of Tamarack Vance. He cleared the land which he originally purchased, bought other property and built good farm buildings. In 1865 he put up a house at a cost of \$10,000, he being at that time the owner of nine hundred and sixty acres. He kept excellent stock and raised grain in large quantities. He was Supervisor and Treasurer of the township several years and was quite conspicuous as a local politician, from the organization of the Republican party being a staunch member. He died September 4, 1880. The mother of our subject breathed her last about 1844. The family consisted of four children—Emerson, Emmett, Emily and Ursula.

On the homestead in Clinton County, Emerson Vance was born November 16, 1840, and there he grew to manhood and began his preparations for the work of life. After studying in the district schools he spent six months at what was called the Leoni Collegiate Institute in Jackson County, and in 1866 devoted an equal length of time to work in a commercial college in Chicago. He then returned home and spent a twelvemonth in work upon the homestead, after which he married and established his own household on the adjoining section. When the Civil War began he was not long in deciding to take up arms in defense of the old flag and on May 20, 1861, he was enrolled in Company I, Second Michigan Infantry. He was present at the first and second battles of Bull Run and was with Gen. McClellan on the Peninsula. He bore a part in numerous battles and everywhere displayed the qualities of a gallant soldier. At the siege of Knoxville a shot penetrated his left leg above the knee and he was also wounded in the right hip. He was honorably discharged July 18, 1864, and resumed his former peaceful occupations.

March 21, 1868, was the date of the marriage of Mr. Vance and Miss Sarah McVeigh. The bride was a resident of Westphalia Township, Clinton County, and one of the fourteen children born to Milton and Margaret (Smeliger) McVeigh, natives of New York, who were early settlers in Clinton County. The other survivors of the large family are Mrs. Julia Wright, Mary, Henry, Samuel, Louisa

and Emily. Mr. and Mrs. Vance have three children, who are named respectively: Ulysses G., Wilbur and Bertha M.

Mr. Vance is a Mason and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He casts his influence with the Republican party. At his former home he served as Township Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk, and in each station proved his efficiency and faithfulness. He holds a prominent place in the community in which he lives, and his wife shares with him in an interest in the general welfare, and labors to promote it.



SHELDON R. CURTISS who lives on section 21, Berlin Township, Ionia County is the son of Russell J. Curtiss, a Vermont farmer and Lydia (Potter) Curtiss, an Ohio woman. In this latter State the parents were married and resided until 1852, when they came to Michigan and settled upon a raw, heavily timbered farm of eighty acres, built a log house and began clearing off and improving the farm. Fifty acres were cleared by them and placed under cultivation. Russell J. Curtiss died in December, 1890, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. His faithful wife still survives although she has completed her four-score years. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he was a Steward, Trustee and Class-Leader. They were also both active in Sunday-school work. Local politics always interested him greatly and he voted the Republican ticket. He was for some time Justice of the Peace. He was actively interested in school matters and was a member of the School Board. His temperate habits and life of strict integrity insured for him the respect and confidence of his neighbors. He and his good wife were the parents of seven children, six of whom are now living: Catherine E., now widow of L. J. Canright; Sarah R., now Mrs. Riley Chamberlain; Lucy A., widow of Jerome M. Walker; Corintha M., now widow of George Scissem; our subject, and Willie H., who lives in this township.

The gentleman of whom we write was born April

22, 1839, in Lorain County, Ohio, and at thirteen years of age removed to Michigan with his parents. Most of his education was received in this State. He attended school in the first schoolhouse built in Berlin Center. He grew to manhood upon his father's rugged farm, which he helped to clear and cultivate. He there gained the foundation for a character of earnestness, sincerity and quiet persistence which was destined to help him pass through the trials before him. He began for himself at twenty-one years of age, buying forty acres where he now lives. It was almost wholly unimproved there being no buildings upon it.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage in 1860 with Abigail N. Barnard, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Cook) Barnard. Mrs. Barnard was a native of Vermont, and Mr. Barnard was a native of the Empire State, where this couple were united in marriage and which they left to come to Michigan in 1853. Here they settled upon section 14, in Berlin Township, all wild land. Mr. Barnard was a great worker and accomplished wonders in clearing and improving. He added to his original eighty acres until he had about two hundred broad and fertile acres. The original eighty acres were in splendid condition of cultivation at the time of his death. The worthy couple died in this county, the mother in 1871, and the father in 1883. Mrs. Barnard was a useful and active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her husband took a lively interest in politics and was a staunch Republican, bringing up his sons with the heartiest love for the free institutions of our country and so training them as to make them willing to spring to the defense of the Nation's honor. Three of them entered the Union army during the Civil War and two were in Andersonville prison, where one, George W., died in 1864. Mr. Barnard was strongly temperate in his principles and benevolently inclined to assist churches in his vicinity. He and his good wife were the parents of ten children, five of whom are now living. Their daughter, Mrs. Curtiss was born January 7, 1840, in New York. She has a good common-school education.

After his marriage the subject of this sketch settled upon his present farm, built a log house and

began clearing off and improving the land. He now has eighty acres, about seventy of which is improved. He built his residence ten years ago. All the other improvements have been put here by himself. He carries on mixed farming, raising both grain and stock.

Having established a happy home upon his new farm Mr. Curtiss was prepared for a continued period of prosperity and domestic enjoyment, but it was not so to be, for his country called and to follow duty was the only decision possible with this true-hearted Christian man and patriot. In October, 1862, he enlisted in Company M, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. This regiment was organized in Grand Rapids and when ready for service was sent forward to the National Capital and was attached to the Army of the Potomac, in Gen. Custer's brigade of Michigan Cavalry. The regiment operated all through Virginia and our hero took part in the battles of Cold Harbor, Chickahominy Swamp, Trevilian Station, Cedar Creek, and a large number of skirmishes and small fights. He was also in the famous battle of Gettysburg. On June 11, 1864, he had the great misfortune to be captured by the rebels at Trevilian Station. He was taken to Richmond and put into Libby prison and later into Castle Thunder. After this he was removed to Andersonville prison where he was most of the time for six months, and where he suffered untold horrors. When he was in service before his capture he weighed one hundred and ninety pounds, but when he passed out from the door of the rebel prison he had wasted until he weighed only one hundred and sixteen pounds.

An intensely interesting sketch of Mr. Curtiss' experiences in the rebel prisons given below, was written by himself, and kindly furnished us for publication: "We love to speak of the pleasant memories of the past, but to me the memories of army life are clouded by sad recollections, especially when my mind goes back to my life in rebel prisons. Our regiment went out in 1862 and put in three years of solid work with Custer's Michigan Cavalry Brigade. We remember the long lines of stalwart men that marched out at the bugle call for drill and dress parade in the old camp at Grand Rapids. We remember them at the front when called to

meet the more stern realities of soldier life. We cannot forget those that fell, pierced with rebel bullets, and mangled by rebel shells, and how shall we forget those who bore those awful sufferings and finally died in the midst of the horrors of rebel prisons. Of all death dealing machinery there is none more terrible than these.

"I was in four different prisons: Castle Thunder, Mahlon, Libby, and Andersonville. The famous old Libby prison is so well known that I will call your attention to a few only of my reminiscences. This prison was located on one of the principal streets in the city of Richmond, Va., and had been formerly used as a warehouse. It was built of brick, and its windows well barred with iron. Its walls were strongly guarded by rebel soldiers, and it was considered impossible for our men to escape from it, but in this they were mistaken, although at one time they placed over the door this inscription:

"Abandon hope all ye who enter here."

In this prison many of our true soldiers were confined, and from this place they were drawn by lot to be put to death in retaliation for some supposed or real grievance which the Confederacy had suffered at the hands of the United States Government. At one time Capt. Sawyer, of New Jersey, and Capt. Flinn, of Indiana, were drawn by lot for execution, and were placed in a most filthy and gloomy dungeon to await the fatal day when vengeance should be wreaked upon them. By some unknown means this fact was reported in Washington and word was sent by our Government that if these men were harmed the same fate would be meted out to the sons of two rebel officers, then held prisoners at Washington. Thus were these brave men saved, and their turn for exchange came soon and they were free.

"It was common for us to hear discouraging news, in fact we seldom heard of the Union army gaining any victories. One day it was reported that Meade was defeated with great loss near Gettysburg, and that Grant had closed an unsuccessful campaign by raising the siege at Vicksburg. These were truly dark days for the brave boys imprisoned there, waiting and hoping. But the silver lining of the cloud would sometimes glimmer through our dark-

ness and in spite of all precautions it turned out that the sun was still shining. A Richmond paper found its way to us, and brought the glad tidings that Grant had taken Vicksburg, with thirty thousand prisoners and that the battle of Gettysburg had resulted in the defeat of Lee with a loss to him of twelve thousand killed and wounded. This inspiring news spread among the men silently but swiftly and hearts went up in thankfulness, eyes brightened and faces shown with hope. Rebel guards walking their rounds wondered at the change, when all at once hundreds of voices burst forth in song as they never sang before :

“Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;

He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;

He hath loosed the fitful lightning of His terrible swift sword;

His truth is marching on.”

Then rose the grand chorus of,

“Glory, glory, Hallelulah.”

“Union men from Tennessee were confined in the lower parts of the old prison, where it was so damp and unhealthy that mould actually accumulated on their beards. Many noble men closed their eyes forever in those dungeons. From this prison a tunnel was dug underground through which about sixty escaped, and many succeeded in reaching the Union lines. But the time came when I was to leave Libby prison, and with others I was marched out, bidding farewell to those left behind. They were loaded into box cars, closely crowded with but little to eat or drink, while the heat was almost unendurable. Our suffering was great and the filthiness of the cars was beyond description. Late one afternoon in June we arrived at our destination—Andersonville prison.

“This prison is in a part of Georgia where there are extensive pine forests. The encampment was made by setting logs in the ground upon end, side by side, running up some twelve or fourteen feet. We were taken to the quarters of the commanding officer, where for the first time we saw that heartless wretch named Wirz. We were searched before being taken out of his presence, and we were glad indeed to get out of the sound of his terrible pro-

fanity. One who lately visited the cemetery at Washington, says: “The grave of the keeper of Andersonville is near the main entrance. The man who buried him is still employed at the cemetery and he identified the grave. He contemptuously kicked one foot against a small block of stone lying in the autumn rubbish, saying: ‘That is Wirz.’ His grave lies near to another, but not on a line with it, as if intended to be half way below the line. A small stone bears simply the name, Wirz. The keeper of the Andersonville pen, moulders in a neglected grave.

“I shall never forget the gloominess of that afternoon when we were put inside the stockade. I was surprised and horror stricken. Hope died within me, and death seemed stamped upon everything. The air was full of deathly odor from the filthy ground, and the water was putrid from the wash of the prison. A long row of our boys that had died during the day lay on the right, as we passed through the inner gate. Their number would be added to until morning, when the dead wagon would take them to the place of burial. The whole prison enclosed about twenty acres; guards could be seen on top of the stockade at intervals of about five rods all round the prison. There was a line staked out about fifteen or twenty feet from the stockade that was called the dead line, beyond which was sure death to go. Some of our boys were shot dead before learning what this line was for.

“Four of us lay down in the rain under our one blanket, weary and sad, but were in a short time awakened by the robbers that infested the prison. One of these fellows stood over me with a large club, another drew a razor across the throat of my next neighbor while another looked over the contents of my satchel. We finally got the advantage of them and drove them off. They were a desperate set of hard cases, that had been put in the navy so that they could be managed, but being captured and in prison they entered upon their old business of robbery and murder. Six out of sixty of them were afterwards arrested, tried and condemned, sentenced and hung in prison. The groans of the sick, and continual cough, cough, in every direction, all through the long nights were sounds that our ears soon became accustomed to. Men

were walking continually day and night until they could go no longer, when they would drop down and die, being actually starved to death. Many were the plans laid for our escape, but few succeeded in getting away.

"It was a common thing to hear the baying of a pack of bloodhounds in the night, as they circled around the prison pen, and finally struck off in some one direction, the sound dying away in the distance. This told us that more of our poor boys had been trying to get away. Those that were brought back were severely punished. Men were fastened into the stocks by the wrists and ankles between heavy planks for hours. The stocks were in plain sight of us all and it was a common sight to see our comrades thus tortured. Had it not been for the horrors of the situation few would have run such fearful risks to get away.

"Wells were dug to a great depth in an effort to get pure water, but not much could be obtained in that way and the suffering for want of it was great, until the Providence Spring broke out. This spring was so named because it was looked upon by many as a direct gift from God. I have drank from many a fountain of living water, but I never found one so sweet and so pure. How eagerly we crowded up to get a draught from that pure fountain, and how we hastened with a cup of it to helpless comrades racked with pain and burning with fever. How thankfully the sufferers received it. Yes, we remember that a last gift to a brother was a drink of that pure water. I have no doubt that many of us live to-day that would not have survived without it. I have read of a party of our men visiting the old prison who when they came to the old spring were completely overcome by their feelings, when they remembered what they had passed through.

"We had but little reading matter and a newspaper hardly ever found its way inside the prison. We would try to sing but our hearts were too heavy for that, only as we would make a forlorn effort to cheer up each other. I had a Bible which was not taken from me in all the searchings through which we passed. This was often called for by the boys and read carefully. We talked of home and of the bountiful tables that would be spread for us if

we were so fortunate as to get there again. This was a favorite theme, and many a time I have actually seen those who were listening, moving their lips as if they were tasting a mother's cooking. A poor fellow who passed me one day, stooped and picked up an old bone that had been thrown out and gnawed it just as a hungry dog would do. We tried to study up ways of cheering and amusing each other, that we might not yield to despair.

"Days and weeks passed slowly away and October found us hungry and cold, waiting and hoping for release. The prison had been enlarged, hundreds had been added to our numbers, the death rate had increased, but still we hoped on, hoping against hope. To walk about from point to point of our allotted space was not an agreeable mode of pastime. One needed a stout heart to walk down by the old prison gate in the morning, and look at the long row of our dead comrades as they lay there with thin, white, ghastly faces, awaiting the dead wagon. We wondered why our Government had left us thus to suffer and die. Those in authority were exulting over us, while each hour in the night rebel guards would cry out, "all is well." Our rations were withheld for an entire day from the whole prison, because a few had been caught planning to escape and this at a time when we were already reduced to almost absolute starvation.

"Well, these years have passed away, but as we look back to our days in rebel prisons it seems but as yesterday, when,

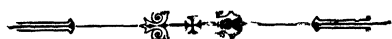
"Within the prison walls,
We were waiting for the day,
That should come and open wide the iron doors.
And the hollow eye grew bright,
And the poor heart almost gay,
As we talked of seeing home and friends once more."

"At Andersonville alone, our Government has placed more than thirteen thousand tombstones, to mark the graves where our loved ones were laid away, and the dear old flag floats to day over their graves."

It was in December, 1864, when the subject of this sketch was exchanged from prison and taken to Annapolis, and allowed to go home on a furlough. At its termination he was ordered to join

his regiment which was then under orders to cross the plains. He went as far as Ft. Leavenworth in Kansas, and there his term of service having expired he was discharged, having served fully three years. He has never seen a day since his prison life that he has not suffered from its effects. Since that time he has devoted himself to his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss are the parents of seven children: Rosa E., wife of Frank Stowell, lives at Clarkesville, Mich., and has three children; Lillie A., wife of John Smith, lives in Boston Township, and has three children; Arthur W., married Mary Haynes, with whom and his one child he makes his home in Britton, Mich.; Della C., wife of Edward Mains, is the mother of one child and makes her home in Spring Arbor, Mich. Gilbert J., Edith G., and Evelyn Grace are at home with their parents. All have had the advantage of a good common-school education. Mr. Curtiss and his family are earnest believers in the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are earnest workers in all church matters. He has been Class-Leader for many years, also Superintendent of Sunday-school at Berlin Center and the teacher of a Bible Class. He and his sons always take an active part in the efforts to promote temperance. His political convictions are with the Republican party and his interest in school matters has led to his being for a long while a member of the School Board.



CHESTER SMITH, M. D. began his career in the wilds of Michigan, and as a matter of course his life was similar to the majority of those who came to this country at that time. The sound of the woodman's ax as it felled the forest trees was the most common and the various scenes of camping and logging life varied the monotony of every day affairs. Amid these scenes of nature the first sixteen years of Dr. Smith's life were passed, but he soon came into prominence before the people, and in the duties of his profession and also in performing those of a citizen he has gained the esteem of all.

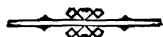
Dr. Smith was born in Jefferson County, N. Y.,

January 6, 1831, and is the son of Elisha and Harriet (Vebar) Smith, who were natives of Massachusetts. Grandfather Elisha Smith was born February 15, 1759, and married Keturah Edson May 10, 1780. He was with Gen. Gates until the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne and was in several battles of the Revolution. The father of our subject was a farmer and came to Michigan in the spring of 1842, locating in Ingham County, where he died. His wife died prior to his death, July 14, 1845. To them were born three children, who are all living. Chester in Portland City; Adoniram J., of Saginaw City and Emerancy, wife of Hiram Godfrey Russell, a resident of White County, Ark. During his pioneer life Chester Smith was reared to chopping and logging until sixteen years of age. He then labored in a cooper shop until attaining his majority. From the age of twenty-one years until that of twenty-four his occupation was that of a gold hunter in California.

Dr. Smith journeyed to the Golden State in the spring of 1852 and returned in the fall of 1855. In going he took the overland route and returned by the way of Panama and New York City. Mr. Smith commenced the study of medicine during the winter of 1855-56, at first rather as a pastime. In the summer of 1856 he went to Kansas and not being satisfied there he returned in the spring of 1857. During this time he located some land which he afterwards sold. He studied medicine with a half-brother, John E. Smith, then practicing at Onondaga, Ingham County. In July of that year Mr. John Smith came to Portland. Dr. Smith took a course of lectures in the winter of 1857-58 in the Western Homœopathic College at Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated in the class of 1859 and then commenced the practice of medicine at Parma, Mich. After six months he removed to Albion, but upon visiting his brother in Portland found him sick and was through his persuasions induced to move to Portland, October 5, 1859, and here he has since remained. Dr. Smith is a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy and also of the State Society. He is also a member of the Masonic order, has been High Priest several years and has been their representative member in the Grand Lodge. Mr. Smith has represented his order

in conventions two different times. He is a member of the Baptist Church, is a Republican and has never voted any other ticket. His first ballot was cast for Abraham Lincoln.

Dr. Smith has been twice married. His first marriage occurred December 5, 1858 to Deborah Lockwood of Jackson County, who died September 23, 1862. Two children were born to this union—Clara M., wife of Clarence Gillett of Ft. Collins, Col., and Glen L. residing in Portland, Mich. Our subject was a second time united in marriage, taking as his wife Mary A. Murphy. Mrs. Smith is a native of Manchester, England, but at the time of her marriage resided in Kenosha County, Wis. Of this union there are two children: Dale A. and Clarence R. Dr. Smith now holds the position of Health Officer, and in all his places which he has held before men has earned their commendation and during his collegiate life struggled manfully with adversity and from the battle came out a man of rare attainments. Glen L. and Dale A. are engaged in the mercantile business in Portland, Mich.



WARREN D. CLIZBE. This name will be recognized by many of our readers as that of a gentleman who, though comparatively young in years, has taken a high stand among the educators of the State. He has been in charge of the Ionia schools since August, 1887, and has brought them to such a high standard that the High School in that city is one of the few in the State whose pupils are allowed to enter the State University without re-examination. Mr. Clizbe has a liberal education and combines with his perceptive faculties the practicality that makes mental culture of real use. Himself an ardent lover of learning, he incites the young to a higher aim, and by his personal example of morality and uprightness adds weight to the teachings that are wrought into the school work.

The parents of our subject are James and Abbie (Rounds) Clizbe formerly of New York, who came to this State in 1835 and are still living in Quincy, Branch County, where the son was born January

18, 1858. They belong to the agricultural class and the early life of our subject was spent amid rural surroundings. He first attended the public schools and at the age of eighteen years entered upon his work as a teacher. For a time he gave a part of each year to that work, but after completing his own studies gave his profession his entire time and thought. He attended the State Normal School at Ypsilanti, Mich., and was graduated from both the classical and scientific departments in the class of 1880.

The first position held by Mr. Clizbe after his graduation was that of Principal of the Birmingham School. He next became Superintendent of Schools at Lapeer, whence he was called to Ionia as Superintendent. He found the schools in this place well regulated and with a good standard of scholarship, and has ably carried on the work. He was Secretary of the County Board of Examiners in Lapeer County, and a member of the Board two years in Ionia, and whatever move is being made in educational circles he takes a deep interest in, and bestows upon it profound thought.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Clizbe August 2, 1882, was known in former years as Miss Nellie Richardson. She has a fine education and prior to her marriage was a High School teacher in this State. Mr. and Mrs. Clizbe have one daughter, Marian R. Mr. Clizbe is Chancellor-Commander in Lucullus Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He is an Elder of the First Presbyterian Church and also Superintendent of the Sunday-school. The home of the Clizbes is one of the intellectual centers of Ionia and under its roof the best society of the town is to be met.



ELIAS GATES who resides on section 29, Orange Township, Ionia County, is the son of Fellows Gates, a native of Vermont, who was born in 1802. The grandfather of Elias was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Fellows Gates, a native of Massachusetts, bore the maiden name of Mary Williams. After her marriage to Mr. Gates in 1826 they resided for years

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in Canada. Then for five years in New York before returning to Canada. They came to Michigan in 1855, and settled on a heavily timbered farm in the wilderness, and taking up forty acres began clearing it. The father remained on this land for thirty-six years, but has never voted here. His wife died in 1881 at the age of seventy-five years. She was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church. All of their eight children are now living. Our subject; Rachel, Mrs. W. Barber; Sallie, Mrs. Thorp; Nathan, Freeman, George; Elizabeth, Mrs. W. Carbaugh; and Caroline, Mrs. Leffingwell.

After receiving a common-school education, Elias remained at home until his marriage, March 31, 1850 to Julia F. Plant, a daughter of Moses and Eliza (Naiden) Plant. Mrs. Gates' parents were both natives of Staffordshire, England, where they were married and lived until 1833, when they came to America and settled in Ohio. Later they went to Canada, and resided there until 1858, when they came to Michigan. They settled successively in Orange, Ionia and Berlin Townships. The father is now eighty years of age. The mother died in 1876. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are living. One son, Samuel, lost his life at Savannah, Ga., while serving in the Union army.

Mrs. Gates was born in England, June 6, 1832, and being married in Canada, in March, 1851, came to Michigan in 1855. She has shown the sterling qualities which characterized the early pioneer mothers. The patient and strong endurance of trials which they showed in their devotion to family interests, their tender care of their children, and their wise provision for their education overcame many obstacles and hindrances to the family progress. Mrs. Gates made a visit to England in 1880. Except five years which they spent in Williamston, the subject of this sketch and his estimable wife have lived continuously on the home farm since coming to this State.

Upon the wild forty acres which Mr. Gates took up when he came here he built a log house and barn, and proceeded to clear twenty-five acres of land. Later he purchased more, so that he now has seventy acres all improved and carries on mixed farming. They are the happy parents of four chil-

dren, namely: Henry F., born in 1852, married Julia Moore and lives in this township; he has one child. Eliza L., born in 1853 is the wife of Harlon LaDu; she has three children and lives in Ingham County. Mary, born in 1861 is the wife of George Whitty and lives in Nashville, Mich., and has one child. Helen, born 1864, is the wife of George H. Myers, lives on section 29 and has one child.

Mr. and Mrs. Gates are earnest, useful members in the Methodist Episcopal Church and have trained up their children in the church and Sunday-school. Their son Henry, is a Steward in the church. Mr. Gates has been School Director and Road Overseer of his township. He has always taken a deep interest in politics voting the Republican ticket. He has been a temperate man all his life and with his wife commands the respect of the community.



GEN. FREDERICK S. HUTCHINSON. In a cyclorama representing the siege of Atlanta may be noticed a prominent figure on horseback leading the charge of the Fifteenth Michigan Infantry, which is pointed out to all visitors as that of a gallant officer whose bravery stands unquestioned and whose daring deserves recounting. The onlooker will be told that the man leading the charge is Gen. Frederick S. Hutchinson, whose military record is among the best, whose soldierly qualities maintained the fullest confidence of his men and whose presence inspired them to deeds of valor. It is of this man, now a resident of Ionia that we purpose to give a brief biographical sketch in the accompanying paragraphs. We also present his portrait on the opposite page.

The birthplace of Gen. Hutchinson was Bedford, Ohio, his natal day September 8, 1839, and his parents Dr. B. M. and Charlotte (Sharp) Hutchinson, whose only child he was. His mother died when he was but four years old and he lived with her people at Willoughby several years. He attended school at Bedford, Tunisbury, and a select school in Cleveland three years, and became well versed in the English branches. In the fall of 1858 he came to this State and located at Lyons where he

was employed as a clerk and book-keeper until 1861. July 30 of that year he was enrolled as a private in Company F, Fifteenth Michigan Infantry and within seven months had passed through the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain to that of Major.

The Fifteenth Regiment was sent from this State to Missouri and thence down the Mississippi, arriving at Pittsburg Landing April 5, 1862. There it passed through the two days' fight at Shiloh and Company F was commanded by Gen. Hutchinson from noon of the first day until the close of the battle, the Captain being absent, and the First Lieutenant killed and the Second wounded at the first volley. After the battle Mr. Hutchinson was made Sergeant-Major and recommended for a commission as Second Lieutenant, which he received the last of the month. Immediately after the engagement at the Landing he was sent for by Gen. Clark, who had been attracted by his skill in making out reports and directed to Gen. Grant as Clerk under Adj. Gen. Rawlins, a position he filled only until his commission arrived.

Col. John M. Oliver having been assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, Sixth Division, Army of the Tennessee, made Lieut. Hutchinson an aid-de-camp on his staff and as such he served until just before the battle of Iuka, when he was assigned to duty as Assistant Adjutant General. October 2, 3 and 4, the brigade was hotly engaged and Lieut. Hutchinson had two horses killed and received two wounds. He had been slightly wounded at Shiloh. After the engagement at Iuka he was promoted to a First Lieutenantcy and after the command moved with Gen. Grant to Oxford and thence to Grand Junction. He acted as Adjutant General of the Post under his old superior, Col. Oliver. At that point he remained until ordered to Vicksburg, where his regiment had a position on the right of Sherman's command.

After the surrender of Vicksburg our subject was promoted to the rank of Captain, and the day that he received his appointment during his absence the other regimental officers recommended his promotion to the rank of Major. The commission was received August 1, 1863, and he took command of the regiment, which passed up the

river with the Fifteenth Corps to Memphis, whence it marched to Chattanooga. The next notable contest in which the command was engaged was Missionary Ridge, where Maj. Hutchinson was wounded and had a horse killed. Thence he went to Knoxville and returned and was then stationed in the vicinity of Huntsville until February when the regiment came home on veteran furlough.

The day the forces under Gen. Sherman started on the Atlanta campaign they were rejoined by Maj. Hutchinson, who participated in every battle in which the Fifteenth Corps was engaged during that campaign. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, June 20, and at the close of the campaign went to Savannah where he aided in the capture of Ft. McAllister, one of the most brilliant minor engagements of the war. Another promotion bestowed upon him, that of Colonel, was dated January 1, 1865. He led his command through the Carolinas to Raleigh, and when near Goldsboro was placed in command of the brigade. After participating in the Grand Review at Washington he was sent to Louisville, Ky., and thence to Little Rock, Ark., which he reached in July, 1865. He visited Ft. Smith and other points and for some time was in command of the division, having been brevetted Brigadier General. He remained in Arkansas until August, when he had orders to muster out the division, and after that work was completed he reported by letter to Washington, D. C., and received orders to report at Detroit for mustering out in October, 1865. In addition to wounds already mentioned he was shot through the right shoulder at Saluda. A somewhat peculiar coincidence is the fact that he had five horses killed in battle and received the same number of wounds.

After his army experience Gen. Hutchinson returned to Lyons, this State, where for a year he devoted himself earnestly to the study of law under the guidance of Seth Moffatt. He then came to Ionia and was with Blanchard, Bell & Dodge two years. When admitted to the bar in 1868 he at once began the practice of his profession in this city and continued it until January 1, 1875. He then became Deputy Register of Deeds and after two years of official life resumed his practice and continues it

to the present time. He is recognized as a most capable lawyer, and competent judges affirm that they would sooner risk his opinion in a matter of law than that of any other member of the Ionia County bar.

Gen. Hutchinson was married in November, 1869, to Miss Ada C. Roof, of Lyons, this State. They have two sons—Herbert D. and Albert K. R., both students. Gen. Hutchinson has been Alderman of Ionia and also Justice of the Peace. In 1881 he took the Captaincy of Company G, Second Michigan State troops, and held the rank two years. In 1883 he was appointed Brigadier General and Inspector General by Gov. Begole. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Grand Army of the Republic, and votes with the Democratic party.



WILLIAM LAMPKIN. The late Mr. Lampkin was widely known throughout Ionia County, in the prosperity of which he had been a factor for many years. He was a thoroughly honest and upright citizen, and enjoyed to an unusual degree the confidence of the business community, by whom his word was considered as good as a bond. He was not known to have had an enemy, and his friends were many and sincere. When he was called away from earth he left a void, not only in the hearts and lives of his family, but of others who had known him, and his memory is kept green. He led such a life as was worthy of imitation, and to recall his virtues is a source of consolation to those who loved him.

Mr. Lampkin was born in England, March 3, 1829, and was a son of John and Martha Lampkin, who emigrated to Canada when he was a small boy. He came to this State about the middle of the century, and was married in Ionia County April 12, 1855, to Catherine Hawley. About three years later the young couple located on the farm now occupied by the widow and her family, which is a part of section 17, Keene Township. The property was then in a primitive condition, nearly covered with dense forests, and the owner had much hard work to do in order to clear and develop it. He

was industrious and prudent, and his wife was capable of superior management, and together they planned and worked until their farm became a fair and fruitful expanse.

Mr. Lampkin was independent in his political views, and exercised the right of suffrage in behalf of the candidates in whose uprightness of character and business ability he had the strongest confidence. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and held various important official positions. He was a loving father and a considerate husband, and in his care for his family exercised his best judgment and endeavored to advance their interests both at the time and for the future. The children born to himself and wife were eight in number, and six are still living. The survivors are John H., Frank E., Bert, Charles W., Lottie A. and Ella M. The deceased are Herbert F. and Willie.

Mrs. Lampkin was born in County Brant, Ontario, Canada, February 20, 1837, and comes of a family that is worthy of respect. Her paternal ancestors were English, and the family in America is traced back to a period prior to the Revolution, when the traditional three brothers crossed the Atlantic and settled in New England. The direct progenitor of Mrs. Lampkin fought in the Revolution. Her maternal grandfather, a Mr. Likins, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and died from the results of a severe march.

The parents of Mrs. Lampkin were Harvey and Elizabeth Hawley, natives of Connecticut and Canada, respectively. They came to Ionia County when the daughter was in her eighteenth year and made a settlement in Keene Township, on the farm now owned by Horace Peck. There they lived many years, attaining to an honorable place among the people. They removed from the farm to Saranac, where Mrs. Hawley died December 27, 1890, and Mr. Hawley followed to his final rest on the 6th of May, 1891, while in his eighty-fourth year, at the home of his daughter-in-law in Keene Township. They had a large family, of whom the following survive: Rev. Harvey R., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Lake Odessa; Mrs. Lampkin; Matilda, wife of Henry Jackson; Clark; Elizabeth, wife of J. L. Welch; Mrs. Emeline Williams; Jem-

ima; Jane, wife of Daniel E. Wilson; Wentworth H.; Benson S.; Mrs. Abram Thomas; and Mrs. Mary Lowry. One of the deceased members of the family is the Hon. Willard Hawley, of Ionia County, a sketch of whom appears in this volume.

As her girlhood was passed in Canada, Mrs. Lampkin received the most of her education there. By her good parents she was taught firm principles and industrious habits, and so fitted to discharge the duties that fell to her lot in later years. Her father was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, but the daughter identified herself with the same denomination as her husband, and has been as active in the work carried on by the society as she could be without neglecting her home duties. Since her children have grown old enough to allow her to do more outside her home, she has become a more active member of society, and joined more freely in charitable work and neighborhood affairs. She and her husband are certainly worthy of representation in a volume of a biographical nature, and their friends will be pleased to see this account of their lives. Mr. Lampkin departed this life on the 23d of July, 1878, and Mrs. Lampkin has had charge of the estate consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, has been able to educate her children, and is a capable manager in every respect. The family contributed very liberally to the Keene Methodist Episcopal Church, they bearing about one-eighth of the cost.



CHARLES W. BLUMBERG. It has been said that "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform" and it was only through a threatening misfortune in the life of Mr. Blumberg that he became a resident of Montcalm County. His wife was a consumptive, and but few hopes were entertained of her recovery. Hearing that this county with its heavy growth of pine and its dry, pure air, afforded peculiar advantages in the treatment of this disease, Mr. Blumberg came thither in the fall of 1870. The change proved beneficial; in a short time the wife and mother was completely restored to health and remains to-day

the cherished companion of her husband. Mrs. Blumberg attributes her perfect recovery to living in lumber camps and eating pitch from the pine trees. When Mr. Blumberg located in Douglass Township, Montcalm County, the farm which he purchased was heavily timbered, principally with pine, although there were scattering growths of hardwood.

During the earlier years of his residence here Mr. Blumberg was extensively engaged as a dealer in logs for lumber, at times acting as agent for others and again buying and handling it himself. He is still interested in lumbering to a limited extent, doing the most of that kind of business in his immediate neighborhood. It is, however, as a tiller of the soil that he is chiefly occupied. His first purchase in this county comprised two hundred and forty acres of land, located just west of his present residence. To this he later added the two hundred acre tract upon which he now lives, and cultivated and improved this large estate until it ranked among the finest farms of the county. At present he owns two hundred and forty acres, having sold forty acres, and given two of his sons eighty acres each. He is widely known as a progressive farmer, and as such has contributed his quota to the development of Montcalm County.

The parents of Mr. Blumberg, Michael and Almira (Hyde) Blumberg, were natives respectively of Schoharie and Seneca Counties, N. Y. The father was a farmer, although in his early manhood he operated a lumbermill in Schoharie County. In 1832 he left his home in the Empire State, and in company with his first wife, who was formerly a Miss Elsworth, came to Michigan and settled in Oakland County. There, after the death of his wife he was again married, choosing as his wife Miss Almira Hyde and to them was born December 6, 1838, a son, whom they named Charles W., who is the subject of this sketch. Charles W. was a lad of seven years when his parents removed from Royal Oak Township, Oakland County, to Canton, Wayne County, and in the district schools of that county he obtained his early education. At the age of thirteen years he accompanied his parents to Ingham County and there his education was

further supplemented by an attendance during three months of the year in the schools of Lansing. It may truly be said of him that he found the path of learning no easy one, for he was compelled to walk three miles to school and back daily.

At the early age of nineteen years, Mr. Blumberg was united in marriage with Miss Martha Steel, the daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Gunderman) Steel, and a native of New Jersey. He remained under the parental roof for several years after his marriage and superintended his father's farm. In the meantime the great Civil War was being waged and the heart of every patriot responded to his country's call. On February 17, 1865, Mr. Blumberg enlisted in Company B, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, and ten days later was mustered into the United States service. He was immediately ordered to the front and going to Harper's Ferry, Va., was stationed in a dismounted camp and afterward served at the Point of Rocks on the Potomac. While at the latter place Lincoln was assassinated and the recruits were kept on the *qui vive* in search of the assassin. Mr. Blumberg was next ordered to Chapel Point and from there was sent to Alexandria, Va., where he first joined his regiment, having hitherto acted as a soldier in the dismounted camp. On the 24th of May, 1865, the regiment was ordered to Washington, D. C., to take part in the Grand Review, subsequent to the disbandment of the larger portion of the Union army.

Although the great war was closed, Mr. Blumberg's services as a soldier were not ended. The Michigan Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the First, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Regiments, was ordered West to serve on the frontier against the Indians. They journeyed by rail to Parkersburg, W. Va., thence by boat to St. Louis, where a portion of the regiment was detailed to buy horses. Mr. Blumberg was sent to Leavenworth, Kan., where horses and equipments were furnished him for service on the plains, and from that place he marched with the others of his regiment to Ft. Laramie. From that post the Sixth Regiment was ordered to march under Gen. Connor on the Powder River Indian expedition. About three hundred miles northwest of Ft. Laramie on the Powder River the ex-

pedition built a fort and remained for three weeks in that camp. In the meantime they destroyed an Indian village of one thousand inhabitants, engaged in numerous skirmishes with the savages, and upon one occasion the retreating reds were followed by a band of Indian scouts, or "friendlies," as they were usually called, who returned with thirty-four Indian scalps. The expedition also established a short route to Virginia City, which proved of great value to trade, commerce and travelers.

Upon returning to Ft. Laramie, Mr. Blumberg was appointed wagon-master of the train from that place to Ft. Bridger, where the Michigan Brigade was consolidated into one regiment, called the First Michigan Cavalry. A portion of this regiment, consisting of men from each company, received orders to proceed to Salt Lake City, and after arriving there our subject, who had been sent among others, was appointed assistant wagon-master of that post. He filled that position satisfactorily until February 27, 1866, when he was discharged and mustered out of service at that point. His journey home was both tedious and expensive; it cost him \$300 to get back to Atchison, Kan., from Salt Lake City, and the railroad fare on to Jackson, Mich., was \$31.75, making a total amount of more than his entire wages while in the army. However, he afterward received \$213 for his transportation from the Government.

Mr. Blumberg once more settled down to the peaceful pursuits of agriculture and in April, 1866, purchased a farm in De Witt Township, Clinton County, Mich. This purchase comprised eighty-one acres of timbered land, of which he cleared fifteen acres and then sold the place, after living there eighteen months. We next find him in Olive Township, Clinton County, where he bought and operated a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, partially improved. He soon sold this estate at a fair advance upon the amount paid for it, and then, in the fall of 1870, settled in Montcalm County. He has been prominently identified with the best interests of the county and is foremost in every movement which he thinks calculated to benefit the community. Politically, he has always been a Republican and has served his township as Supervisor

for eight years. He is also interested in educational affairs and has done much to advance the schools of the district, and as one of the most substantial citizens of Douglass Township is universally honored and respected.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Blumberg seven children have been born, named as follows: Charles Dennis, born May 24, 1858; Friend William, February 16, 1860; Almina Margaret, March 7, 1864; Daniel Michael, October 16, 1865; George I., July 8, 1871; Mark E., November 25, 1875; Clarence F., March 25, 1880. Charles D. married Adaline Books and is now a resident of Washington County, Ore.; F. W. lives on a part of the old homestead and married Mary Catherine Beamer; Almina, who married Louis J. Rimes, died July 7, 1886; Daniel was united in marriage with Miss Anna Haney and they reside near the old homestead; George and his wife, formerly Lizzie McLean, live with his parents; Mark E. and Clarence F. are still under the parental roof and are being trained for honorable positions in life.

Mr. Blumberg, his wife and their two eldest sons, are members of the Baptist Church, to which he has belonged for nearly thirty years. He has served as Deacon in Clinton County and here as Trustee. In 1886 he donated land on section 9 for a Baptist Church and afterward assisted largely in its erection; he also assisted in building the Baptist Church at McBride. Socially he is a member of Stanton Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and of the Osmer F. Cole Post, No. 81, G. A. R., at Douglass. In the latter he has served as Post Commander since its organization. The Grange Hall at Entrican is on Mr. Blumberg's land, on a lease of ninety-nine years free. It will be seen from this brief sketch that Mr. Blumberg has been closely connected with the development of Montcalm County. His whole life in fact, may be said to have been passed upon the frontier. Not only did he assist his father in clearing farms in Oakland, Wayne, and Ingham Counties, but after starting out for himself he cleared a portion of two farms in Clinton County, and over two hundred acres in Douglass Township. He is proud of the fact that his father cleared over thirty acres of land in one year after he had attained to the age of three-score

years. As one of the brave pioneers, to whose untiring and self-sacrificing efforts we owe our present high civilization, the name of Mr. Blumberg will be held in high esteem long after he shall have passed hence.



WILLIAM S. COWAN. The farm of this gentleman is not only one of the best in Ionia County but in the entire State. It is not an immense estate, but is developed to a point of perfection seldom reached and supplied with buildings far above the average. There are one hundred and forty-eight acres of land on section 3, Easton Township, under high cultivation, furnished with every necessary building and stocked with fine animals. The residence cannot fail to attract the eye of the passer-by, as it presents an appearance in keeping with the beauty and comfort of the interior. It is finished in the best style of modern architecture, arranged so as to afford the utmost convenience and among its other fittings is supplied with a hot air furnace, by means of which the heat can be gauged to the desired temperature. The residence is furnished in fine style and, what is best of all, its inmates take great delight in intellectual and social enjoyments, and right royally entertain their friends.

It may be well to make some mention of the ancestors of Mr. Cowan before proceeding with his own life history. His grandfathers, both paternal and maternal, were Scotch, and his mother's mother was of German descent. His parents, Peter and Catherine (Greene) Cowan, were born in New York and lived in that State until the fall of 1848. They then turned their steps toward Kent County, this State, and crossing the lake from Buffalo to Detroit continued their journey in a wagon. They made their home in Cortland Township for several years, then took up pioneer life in Grattan Township, on woodland for which they paid \$2.50 per acre. They were in limited circumstances and when their eighty-acre tract was secured they had just means enough to provide for their wants until a crop could be raised. They found it necessary to

"rough it" more or less, but the passing years brought an increase of comfort and a good estate was left when they passed away. Mr. Cowan was a Republican in politics and a Congregationalist in religion. Of the eight surviving children in the parental family, all are living in Kent County except our subject.

The date of the birth of William S. Cowan was July 9, 1839 and his birthplace Onondaga County, N. Y. He was but nine years old when the family came to this State and he grew to manhood in Kent County, amid much more primitive scenes than those which his eyes now behold. He pursued his studies in the district school and did what he could to aid his father, at the same time fitting himself for the agricultural work which he now pursues so successfully. Loyal in heart and brave in spirit, he enlisted in the fall of 1861 in Brady's Sharpshooters and was attached to the Sixteenth Regiment of Michigan Infantry, Army of the Potomac. He had been in the service about six months when he was taken sick, and off and on he was in the hospital a great deal. He was finally discharged in June, 1862, and returning to his former home resumed the duties of a private citizen. His military record is an honorable one and would have been more extended had not his health failed.

May 4, 1865, Mr. Cowan was married to Elizabeth Allen. The bride was born in Ionia County, December 31, 1840, her parents having been early settlers in Ronald Township. Her father, Melvin B. Allen, was born on Grand Isle in Lake Champlain, which belongs to the State of Vermont, and died in the city of Ionia November 1, 1887. He was of Scotch descent and was a grandson of Ebenezer Allen, a Colonel of the Revolutionary army, and cousin to Gen. Ethan Allen, the famous hero of Ticonderoga. The mother of Mrs. Cowan is of German stock and bore the maiden name of Eliza Wood. She is now seventy-five years old and resides with the daughter mentioned. Of her eight children this daughter and two sons—Marcellus J. and Herbert L., both living in Ronald Township, are the only survivors. Mr. and Mrs. Cowan have three children—Elmer A., Irma L. and Edgar J.

In 1881 Mr. Cowan removed to Ionia County,

where his good business ability, companionable nature and public spirit have made him influential and popular. He and his family show an unusual warmth of hospitality and even the passing traveler who calls upon them is "kindly entreated." Books and papers are numerous in their beautiful dwelling and it is easy to see that they are not for show, but that they are thoughtfully and frequently read. Mr. Cowan takes great delight in the occupation in which he is engaged, bestows much thought upon his farm and stock, and has many progressive ideas regarding his work. His swine, which are of the Poland-China breed, include a number of registered animals. In politics, Mr. Cowan is a Republican, and in religious faith, a Congregationalist.

Our subject was not the only member of the Cowan family to display loyalty to the Union. His brother James was likewise one of Brady's Sharpshooters and was one of the best marksmen in that body as well as one of the bravest and most valiant of soldiers. He lost his life at the Battle of the Wilderness, while in a rifle pit from which he was sighting his piece on a rebel artilleryman. He was struck by a ball just above the eye and instantly killed.



ROBERT MCKENDRY. In various parts of the United States natives of Scotland are to be found filling their station in life with honor and displaying the sturdy qualities of earnestness, diligence and thrift that have characterized the nationality for ages past. A worthy type of this class is to be found in Ionia County in the person of Robert McKendry, one of the prominent agriculturalists and citizens of Easton Township. The farm that he owns and operates is favorably located on section 18, and consists of one hundred and sixty broad and fertile acres, mostly under the plow. The original purchase was one hundred and twenty acres and after that had been cleared and improved Mr. McKendry added lands adjoining. The convenient and tasteful residence now occupied by the family was begun in 1878 and completed in 1887. It is furnished in a manner that is in keeping with the prosperous circum-

stances of Mr. McKendry and the taste of the family, and its doors are ever hospitably open to friends and neighbors.

Mr. McKendry was born in Wigtonshire, Scotland, May 26, 1841, being a son of Thomas and Anna (Agnew) McKendry. He was eight years old when his mother died, and immediately after that sad event his father and brother William crossed the Atlantic and made a settlement in Orleans County, N. Y. The next year Robert came over with his grandparents, crossing from Liverpool to New York on a sail vessel and being forty-three days en route. The lad grew to maturity in New York and from his early youth has been engaged in farming. His education was begun in the schools of his native land and continued in Orleans County, but he had not the advantages afforded in the colleges. He has however, been a reader and has aimed to keep up with the progress of events in his general knowledge.

December 28, 1865, Mr. McKendry was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte O. Brown, who was born in Orleans County, N. Y., July 21, 1844. She is a daughter of Hiram and Mary (Hutchinson) Brown, who were natives of New York and Vermont respectively, and whose family consisted of four children. Besides Mrs. McKendry there are now living Edwin R., whose home is in Ionia Township, and Sophronia, wife of Thomas Thomas, in Easton Township. Mr. and Mrs. McKendry have three living children—Anna, John and Libbie—and lost a daughter Alice. Anna is the wife of Edwin Bradford and their home is in Easton Township.

It was in the spring of 1872 that Mr. McKendry brought his family hither from New York. His fine farm attests to the success with which his labors have been crowned, and a mention of his name elicits the fact that he commands the confidence of the business community and that he and his family are respected members of society. He is one of the prominent political factors of Easton Township and takes a lively interest in the selection of competent men for the offices that are within the gift of the people. He is in sympathy with Democratic principles and politics. He is a member of Blue Lodge, No. 36, F. & A. M., at Ionia;

Ionia Chapter No. 14, R. A. M., and Council Lodge of Royal Select Masters at Ionia. He has officiated in many of the important offices connected with the order. As a Justice of the Peace Mr. McKendry has labored with credit to himself and the community several terms. He is an intelligent public-spirited gentleman, honest and upright, and he and his family are respected members of society.



GODFREY F. FAUDE is proprietor of cigar factory No. 123, in Ionia. He is an energetic business man, whose goods are now sold over a radius of fifty miles, and whose business is to be doubled during the current year unless some unforeseen catastrophe befalls him. He began business for himself in 1887, prior to which time he had been doing good work as a foreman, after having thoroughly learned the tobacco business. He employs twelve hands who, during 1890, turned out 400,000 cigars. The brands manufactured are G. F., Black Bass, Industria, Silver Bell, Sweet Florida and Our Hit.

Mr. Faude is one of the German-American citizens who, while manifesting a deep interest in the land of their nativity, are yet thoroughly in sympathy with American institutions, and rejoice heartily in the opportunities and privileges of "the land of the free." He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, August 19, 1856, and was but two years old when brought to this State. He therefore knows no home but this, although the traditions of his nationality and the experiences of the family almost take the place of personal observation. His parents, Philip F. and Caroline (Riess) Faude, located in Detroit when they emigrated, the father now living in Coldwater; the mother is deceased, the date of her death being April 27, 1887. The father is a boot and shoe dealer. Their family comprises four living children and four deceased. The survivors are John J., Rector of Gethsemane Church in Minneapolis, Minn.; G. F.; Anna, wife of E. E. Dill, a liveryman in Portland, this State; and Edward B.

Immediately after completing the course of study



Yours truly & Courteously
P. H. Taylor

in the High School at Coldwater, Godfrey F. Faude entered upon the trade of cigar making. He went from Coldwater to Jackson, pursued the tobacco business there a year, and came to Ionia in 1885, as foreman in the prison. He carried on the tobacco business there about three years, then established himself in business with the result before noted. He has a happy home where he enjoys the companionship of a wife and two children, and the society of friends who frequent it. His wife, formerly Miss Inez McArthur, is an estimable woman, and the children, Claude and Fay, are bright and interesting. The wedding rites of Mr. and Mrs. Faude were celebrated at Coldwater February 12, 1879.

Among the younger business men of Ionia Mr. Faude is noticeable for the zeal with which he pursues his object, the quiet and intelligent interest he takes in the prosperity of the city and the uprightness of his character. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and has good standing in the Episcopal Church.



PALMER HURD TAYLOR. It has been the fortune of this gentleman to not only see, but to assist in the vast improvements made in Ionia County during the past fifty odd years. He arrived in Ionia January 31, 1838, and making the county his permanent home he has realized to the full the trying situations of the pioneer—the hardships, privations, wants and perplexities. At the time of his arrival the entire improved land in the county would not exceed two hundred acres, and the clearings were frequently many miles distant one from another. A day's work then was from sun to sun in the summer, and from before daylight until after dark in the winter. It frequently happened that Mr. Taylor, after a hard day's work, would spend the night with some sick one who was in need of a watcher, and thus, like other men of the day, he showed to the fullest extent the spirit of brotherly kindness.

Our subject, who was the eldest son of Levi and Lucy (Reed) Taylor, was born in Lewiston, Niag-

ara County, N. Y., July 23, 1819, and was descended in direct line from John Taylor, who came from England with Gov. Winthrop in 1630, settling in Lynn, Mass., until 1639, when he removed to Norwich County. Among the descendants can be mentioned Gen W. T. Sherman, Hon. John Sherman, Rev. Noah Porter (late president of Yale College), P. T. Barnum, besides many others of note. The house in which Palmer H. Taylor was born had a somewhat peculiar history. When Buffalo, Black Rock and Lewiston were burned by the British and Indians during the War of 1812, it was the only frame structure left standing in that neighborhood. It was located four miles east of the village of Lewiston on the Ridge Road and was at that time an open shed. When the inhabitants returned to their desolated homes the shed was converted into a dwelling, and when its owner had rebuilt on the foundation of his first dwelling, the remodeled structure was used as a storehouse until September, 1818. Levi Taylor and his wife then took possession of it and began clearing the surrounding land for a farm.

In the spring of 1822 the parents of our subject removed to Lockport, then a new village on the Erie Canal, and there the son began his course of study. His parents were ever on the alert to secure for him a place in the best schools, and being studious and possessed of a retentive memory, he always ranked among the best in his classes. At the age of fourteen he laid aside the arithmetics and grammars of those days and in their place took up Day's Algebra and Latin. In December, 1835, he went to Geneva, Ontario County, remaining there more than a year in attendance at the Lyceum under charge of the Rev. Mr. French and William Hogarth, afterward Dr. Hogarth of Detroit. In February, 1837, the parents of Mr. Taylor prepared to remove to Michigan and their son packed his books, bade good-bye to school and started for the far West. He had made a novel proposition to his parents which was, "have the cow shod and I will drive her through Canada." The strange idea was carried out and the young man was nineteen days in passing over the distance from Lockport to Ypsilanti and ten from Ypsilanti to Ionia.

The father of our subject was a builder and as the emigrants needed assistance in putting up houses and barns, he was frequently engaged in that kind of work, assisted by the son, who soon became an adept in handling the square, scratch and ten-foot pole. The education of the younger Mr. Taylor was sufficient to enable him to teach in any common school in this State, but a preference for mechanical work made him reject all offers to take a school except one term, and then against his own judgment. The situation of his parents were such that he felt it his duty to remain with them, and it was not until he was thirty-five years old that he set up a home of his own. He had in the meantime built for them a comfortable dwelling and carried out other plans for their comfort.

October 5, 1854, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage with Miss Arabella F. Jackson of Monroe County, this State. For almost a score of years they journeyed hand in hand, sharing the toils of life, rejoicing together in prosperity and sorrowing as one in days of affliction. The death of Mrs. Taylor occurred March 6, 1873, and was caused by heart disease, which removed her suddenly from association with her family. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were George Dwight, August 12, 1855; Mary Abbie and Martha Arabella, June 8, 1857; William Morris, January 7, 1861; and Grace Reed, September 16, 1865. William died January 31, 1861, when but a few weeks.

Mr. Taylor never sought office and the only public position to which he was ever elected was the important and honorable one of School Inspector. In politics he was a Democrat of the Free Soil wing when the party was divided and known as Hunkers and Barn-Burners. True patriotism and devotion to liberty were hereditary in his character, he being descended in both lines from soldiers of the United States. His mother's father had served through the Revolution and his own father fought in the War of 1812 as a private in Capt. Stephen Gifford's company of New York militia.

In March, 1851, Mr. Taylor became a Master Mason and he was promoted step by step until elected Worshipful Master of Ionia Lodge, No. 36. He was also Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Michigan. In January, 1856, he became a Royal

Arch Mason and he was at one time High Priest of Ionia Chapter, No. 14, and in the Grand Chapter he was Grand Captain of the Host. He was dubbed and created a Knight Templar in Ionia Commandery, No. 11, April 25, 1862, and on the night that President Lincoln was shot he was elected Eminent Commander of Ionia Commandery, No. 11. He is also a member of Queen Esther Chapter, No. 35, Order of the Eastern Star, Ionia, as are also his two daughters, Mary Abbie and Grace Reed. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Ionia and his deceased wife was identified with the same organization, both having united with Presbyterian Churches in their early youth.

In 1855 Mr. Taylor began contributing to various Masonic magazines and he continued his literary work five or six years. He then laid down his pen until October 5, 1878, when he wrote "An Angel Visitant," since which time he has contributed to many periodicals. He is Recording and Historical Secretary of the Ionia County Pioneer Society and has a very important collection of history and photographs. His most important place in the community at present is in the sick chamber, where he performs such duties as are suited to a skilled nurse, his remarkable vigor and long experience making his services very useful, even though he is now in his seventy-second year. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Taylor will be considered by his many friends to be a valuable addition to the ALBUM.

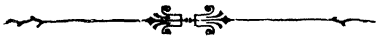


JUDSON H. CLARK, editor of the *Advertiser*, Hubbardston, Mich., was born in Italy, Yates County, N. Y., January 13, 1865. His father, Joel M. Clark, a farmer in that place, and his mother, Lucelia Foskett, were the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters. Our subject is the youngest of the family. His early education was gained in the district schools and he finished his school days at the Penn Yan Academy. After this event he began in business as an engineer

and followed this line of work for several years. He ran an engine in a sugar refinery in Yates County for four years, but this work did not suit his health and he returned to Italy and learned the printer's trade.

Our subject worked at his trade in different places and finally came to Michigan in 1885, first locating where he now resides, afterward he worked at his trade in Otsego, Allegan County, and then engaged in publishing a paper, the *Linden Observer*, at Linden, Genesee County. This he carried on for about two years, then sold it out and returned to Hubbardston. Nellie Murray became his wife June 3, 1889. They have one son, Ray.

Mr. Clark has been carrying on his present business for about two years, and is building up a paper which receives the warm endorsement of its natural supporters. It is increasing in circulation from the fact that no pains are spared to fill its columns with selected local news and reliable information upon all important matters; is lively, aggressive and progressive, with opinions and the courage to express them in a style that displeases the few and wins the admiration of the many. Personally he is a Republican but his paper is independent in politics. He is a Mason and a member of Tuscan Lodge, No. 178, in which he holds a high official position.



PETER J. FELLOWS is numbered among the general farmers and stock-raisers of Ionia County, and now lives on section 33, Odessa Township. He was born in Seneca County, Ohio, December 22, 1840, and is a son of Erastus and Ruth (Smith) Fellows, both natives of New York. Both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and with Christian resignation they closed their eyes in death. Mr. Fellows passed away about 1843, and Mrs. Fellows lived until 1890, dying at the home of a daughter in Lawrence County, Ind. The father was a physician and practiced in Seneca County, Ohio, a number of years. He and his wife had six children, the living being Harriet, wife of Richard Gault, living in Mitchell, Ind.; Julia,

whose home is in Lawrence County, Ind.; Henry, a resident of Grant, this State; Peter J., subject of this notice; and Rosetta, wife of Thomas Cash, of Grant.

Our subject was bereft of his father's care when but three years old, and about three years later went with his mother to Sandusky County, she having married George Bradshaw. The lad remained under their roof until he was about nine years old, after which he began his personal career with no capital except a limited education gained in the district schools, a strong will and the determination to succeed. He worked on a farm until the war broke out, then entered the Union service as a private in Company F, Sixty-Fifth New York Infantry. He signed the list of recruits July 15, 1861, and served four years and four days.

During his army life Mr. Fellows had the fortune to participate in several of the most important and widest-known battles of the war. The list includes Fair Oaks, all the engagements in front of Richmond, the seven days' fight, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Cold Harbor, Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, etc. After the last named he was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, which he had been sent to join some months before. With the Army of the Potomac he took part in Hatchie's Run and aided in carrying the works at Petersburg. He also fought in the last battle at Sailor's Creek. In New York, August 15, 1865, he was honorably discharged and given the commendation which belongs of right to every loyal and courageous soldier.

Returning to his former home in Ohio. Mr. Fellows remained less than a week, then came to Michigan and bought eighty acres of land in Newaygo County. The land was heavily timbered, and while chopping upon it, Mr. Fellows carried on a small farm in the neighborhood, which he had rented. He resided there three years, then sold out and came to Ionia County. He first rented a farm near the county seat, and operated it two years, then came to Odessa Township and bought seventy-one acres of the tract he still owns. With the exception of ten acres of cleared land, the farm was in a state of primitive wildness. Moving on it Mr. Fellows once more set about cutting down forest trees, re-

moving logs and brush and preparing the land for man's use. He has succeeded in placing it under good cultivation, and has made such improvements as the comfort of the family and the progress of his work has shown to be desirable. He keeps a good grade of stock and makes quite a specialty of Chester-White hogs.

The marriage of Mr. Fellows and Miss Mary C. Hassinger was solemnized October 3, 1865, and four children have come to bless the happy couple: Fred, the first-born, is now living in Lake Odessa, and Josie, the second child, is deceased; Jay and James M. are still with their parents. The first Presidential ballot cast by Mr. Fellows bore the name of Abraham Lincoln, and he has never swerved in his allegiance to Republican principles. He is a member of the Grand Army Post and Masonic Blue Lodge in Lake Odessa. He and his wife are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and take quite an active part in church matters. Mr. Fellows has been a Trustee since the organization was perfected. In various ways he aids in the progress of civilization in this part of the great commonwealth, and by setting an example of manly strength of character influences the rising generation on the side of right.



SAMUEL A. WATT is one of the most prominent merchants in Saranac, Ionia County, and also carries a large stock at Clarksville. His life affords one of those examples of close application and good judgment that are a source of encouragement to many a poor boy. He started in life without a dollar and has placed himself at the head of one of the largest stores in the county, and with a reputation for honest dealing and reliability second to none. His store in Saranac is 30x80 feet in size, well filled with goods that include all the articles in general use in a household. The business experience of Mr. Watt has been comprehensive, and as a financier he has demonstrated his ability in other lines besides that of mercantile life.

Mr. Watt is of Scotch and Irish descent, his

parents being David A. and Julia A. (Gallaher) Watt, who were natives of Ohio. The father was a merchant during the greater part of his life and carried on business at Mansfield and later at Findlay. He was living in the latter place at the time of his death, which occurred January 18, 1860. His widow still resides there and has now reached the ripe old age of eighty-three years. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and has always taken an active part in church work. There were seven children in the family and our subject is the fourth of those who are now living. The other survivors are James B., whose home is at Findlay, Ohio; Mary J., wife of J. W. Davidson, Deputy County Clerk at Findlay and a heavy stockholder in a large glass factory; Esther E., wife of the Rev. Mr. Ward, residing at North Baltimore, Ohio.

Mr. Watt, of this notice, was born in Carrollton, Carroll County, Ohio, December 13, 1845. He was two years old when his parents removed to Mt. Gilead, but they remained in that place only two years. They then went to Mansfield and four years later to Findlay, where Samuel remained until he was about seventeen years of age. In the meantime he received a common-school education. When he started out in life for himself he went to Indianapolis, Ind., where he worked in a sutler's store about two years. He then returned to his home and attended school one term after which, in the spring of 1866, he came to Saranac as an employe of D. F. Frazell. Mr. Watt remained with that gentleman two years, then took up the study of telegraphy, which he learned in six weeks, after which he took charge of the telegraph office at Saranac.

In the building in which the telegraph office is located, Messrs. Lee & Goodell had a stock of goods and about the time Mr. Watt took charge of the office they branched out into the banking business. They employed Mr. Watt as clerk and he opened the first set of banking books in Saranac. He continued to work for the firm without neglecting the telegraph office, until Lee & Goodell vacated the building and G. A. Cotton put in a stock of groceries. The post-office and express office were also located in the building. Our subject en-

tered Mr. Cotton's employ and continued with him until early in the '70s, when he received an appointment in the railway mail service. Putting a man in charge of the telegraph office, he entered upon the duties of postal clerk between East Saginaw and Reed City, and afterward run from Ludington to Toledo, Ohio. He was on the Flint, Pierre & Marquette Railway seven years, and was then transferred to the Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee, on which he remained three years and two months.

During the period in which he was in Government employ Mr. Watt economized and accumulated sufficient means to enable him to enter into business in a small way. When he left the postal service he took charge of a store of which he had been the owner some three years. During the month of November, 1884, he entered into partnership with F. E. Cahoon and the connection continued until June, 1886. Since the dissolution of that partnership Mr. Watt has been carrying on his business alone.

Mr. Watt was united in marriage with Miss Alice A. Cotton on September 6, 1870. Mrs. Watt is a daughter of Gilbert A. and Lucy M. (Taylor) Cotton, who were early settlers in Ionia County. Mr. Cotton was well known in the county, particularly in the western part, as he was Postmaster in Saranac twenty-five years and for a long period was a merchant here. He was carrying on mercantile pursuits when stricken with his last illness. He died March 15, 1877, thus removing from the community one of its most esteemed members. His widow survives and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Watt. She is a member of the Episcopal Church, in which her deceased husband took an active interest. Mr. and Mrs. Watt have three children, named respectively: Chillion L., J. Clyde and Stella May.

By the earnest solicitation of many friends Mr. Watt was placed upon the Republican ticket for Sheriff in 1886. Although he was not elected to office he cut the Democratic majority at the previous election down to three hundred votes, which was a great satisfaction to himself and many friends. He has always taken an active part in the work of the Republican party in the locality

in which he lived. He was President of the village board two terms and Clerk of Boston Township two terms. He is a charter member of the Saranac Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Possessing the true public spirit he has always been liberal with his means in supporting enterprises which would build up the community financially and morally. Mrs. Watt belongs to the Episcopal Church. Both husband and wife are well known and respected by all who enjoy their acquaintance.



JAMES TREDENICK. Among the agriculturists of Ionia County who have been so capably carrying on their affairs, both as farmers and citizens, as to be deserving of representation in a biographical work, may be mentioned James Tredenick, an esteemed citizen of Keene Township. His home of fifty-seven acres is on section 19, where he has been living since the fall of 1879. His farm is of moderate size, but is well managed and is the source of a better income than some of much greater extent. It affords a good maintenance and enables Mr. Tredenick to make some provision for the future, and as a home, it is comfortable and pleasant. The owner is industrious and prudent, and care is taken to make the best possible use of the acreage that he cultivates and to supply it with modern improvements, such as befit the home of an intelligent and cultured family.

The birthplace of Mr. Tredenick was Lancaster County, Pa., and his natal day December 22, 1819. His parents, John and Sarah (Leader) Tredenick, were of Irish and German ancestry respectively, and our subject was the eldest son in the parental family. He received a rudimentary education in the early schools of his native State and at the age of nineteen years began an apprenticeship at the trade of a hatter. He served his time, three years, and continued to work at the trade some eighteen years. In Columbia, Pa., he was in business for himself a short time. In 1862 he left his native State for Michigan and established himself in

Ottawa County. His sojourn there proved short and nine months later he was a resident of Kent County, in which he made his home several years. Thence he came to Ionia County in the year before mentioned, and here he has remained giving his time and attention to agricultural work.

In 1850 Mr. Tredenick was united in marriage with Priscilla Brighton, who carefully looked after the affairs of their household through more than thirty years of wedded life; she then bade adieu to scenes of time and sense, breathing her last in May, 1883. She was the mother of five children, named respectively, Henry, Isadore, Lilly M., Emma and William J. Isadore is now the wife of Orren Beach; Lilly married John Blakesley, and Emma is the wife of William Moore. August 25, 1886, Mr. Tredendick became the husband of Mrs. Minerva Brighton, daughter of Solomon and Minerva (Smeed) Howe. This lady was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., January 18, 1835, and her parents were also born in the Empire State. She was nine months old when they removed to Crawford County, Ohio, and sixteen years old when they changed their residence to Seneca County. She was first married in 1855 to Jefferson Brighton, a native of Pennsylvania. Their union was blest by the birth of two children, Frank O., and Jenny E., both now deceased. The daughter was married and left one child, Gertrude, who was born December 3, 1878, and is now living in Cleveland, Ohio, (where she was born) with her aunt, Mrs. Theodore Colman. She is a very interesting and unusually smart child. Mrs. Whitney was engaged in teaching prior to her marriage and her brother Frank was Principal of the High School of New Carlisle, Ind. The latter was a graduate of the Valparaiso (Ind.) Normal School. Mrs. Tredenick's great uncle, Elias Howe, was the inventor of the great Howe sewing machine.

For seven seasons Mr. Tredenick was captain of a canal boat on the Pennsylvania and other canals. He also followed the ocean on the Atlantic coast about an equal length of time, first as a common sailor and afterward as mate of a vessel. He is therefore familiar with coast scenery and he has been quite an extensive traveler. Financially speaking he is self-made. He is in sympathy with

most of the principles of the Democratic party, but casts his ballot more generally for the man of the best character than for strict party measures. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and she is identified with the Foreign Missionary Society connected therewith. Mr. Tredenick is a member of the Masonic order, his name being on the roster of a lodge at Lowell. He is enterprising and public-spirited and may be depended upon to do all that he agrees, whether in business transactions or social matters. Mrs. Tredenick is an unusually intelligent lady and stands side by side with her husband in the esteem of the people to whom they are known.



JOHN J. MAYNARD. The publishers of this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM would fail in their purpose were they to omit from its pages a record of the life of the late John J. Maynard, of Portland, Ionia County. In presenting some facts in his history we can do no better than to copy from the files of the *Portland Observer*, lines written by one who knew him well, and also to quote from the issue of September 19, 1876, an account of the distressing accident that cost him his life. The accompanying paragraphs regarding that valued citizen will be perused with sad interest by the many to whom he was known, personally or by repute:

"John J. Maynard was a boy of but four years of age when his father, the late Gardner Maynard, came from Wayne County, N. Y., in the fall of 1837, and settled in Saline, Washtenaw County, Mich. In February, 1839, they came to Portland and settled on section 10. The country being new, the opportunities for acquiring an education were very limited, but so anxious was the subject of our sketch to fit himself for life's duties that by steady perseverance he not only accomplished his purpose, but received a certificate to teach school. The arduous duties of a teacher in those days when pupils would walk through an unbroken forest for a long distance to reach the log school-house, and when the teacher 'boarded around'

among the patrons of the school, will be remembered by some of our oldest inhabitants.

"Money was then very scarce and teaching was one of the few means by which it could be obtained, and by this vocation Mr. Maynard accumulated in part the means by which his homestead was purchased. As a farmer he was very successful, and there are few, if any, better farms than his on section 21. About four years ago he removed to this village and bought one-half interest in the Portland Woolen Mills, which at the time of his death were doing a prosperous business. Four years ago he united with the Baptist Church, since which time his Christian deportment and example have been unimpeachable. As a manager he had few superiors. Economical in his personal affairs, he was conservative in the expenditure of the funds of others. His advice and counsel was always sought and usually followed as safe and expedient. As one of the building committee in the erection of the new church edifice his death is irreparable. His untimely death at the early age of little more than forty-three years is to be sincerely deplored."

The account of the accident is as follows: "We are called upon this week to record one of the saddest accidents that has ever occurred in our midst, by which Portland has lost one of her best citizens, the church one of her strongest pillars, and a happy family and a large circle of relatives have been plunged into the deepest gloom. On Wednesday evening last Mr. J. J. Maynard received a telegram from his brother-in-law, Mr. James Bower, of Montana, stating that himself and wife—Mr. Maynard's sister—would arrive in Portland on the 1 o'clock train the following day. For the purpose of meeting them at the depot Mr. Maynard left his office at the woolen mills at 12:45 Thursday, and as the shortest route he took the railway track. Just as he reached the bridge he heard the whistle of a locomotive, and doubtless supposing it to be the train, and being anxious to be at the depot, he quickened his pace into a run, crossing the bridge on a board walk at the side of the track, and where there was little danger from a passing train. Instead of being the train, however, it proved to be only a locomotive running wild, and not two minutes

ahead of the passenger train, and it was already on the bridge before Mr. Maynard had reached the trestle work, which is about two rods in length, at the end of the bridge.

"Not seeming to realize his danger, and doubtless supposing it still to be the passenger train, and that it would have slackened its speed preparatory to stopping at the depot, which was a few rods distant, Mr. Maynard was observed to put down his umbrella and step upon the trestle work not more than twenty feet ahead of the engine. Just here accounts differ, but the most authentic says that he looked back, and seeing the engine still under full headway he made a desperate effort to reach the point where he could jump the embankment; and had he been allowed a moment of time he could have accomplished it, but the engine caught his right leg, threw him violently to the ground and dragged him along for a distance of seven rods, bruising his head upon the ends of the ties in a shocking manner. Among the first to get to him were his little son, Umbra, and his brother, Charles H. Maynard, who were at the depot. The unfortunate man was carried to the depot, medical aid was summoned, but he died in two hours, being entirely unconscious during the time.

"The funeral of Mr. Maynard was held in the Methodist Episcopal Church and was the largest ever held in that place. Following the mourners was his Sunday-school class, next other Sunday-school pupils and members of the Baptist Church. The funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. A. E. Mather, of Detroit, who took for his text the words, 'Comfort ye my people.' Appropriate resolutions were adopted by the church and sent to the family."

The widow of Mr. Maynard was born in Berkshire County, Mass., July 10, 1836, and is a daughter of John M. and Almira C. (Clark) Gibbs, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively. When the daughter, Lovilla C., was but a babe the family removed to Portage County, Ohio, their route being via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, on the lake to Cleveland, and thence by team to their destination. They lived in the Buckeye State until 1854, when they came to Michigan and

located near Portland on a farm. Mr. Gibbs now resides in the village. The daughter became the bride of Mr. Maynard October 12, 1858, and she is the mother of two children, a son and daughter. The older, Umbra J., is a prosperous farmer near Portland, and Jessie is a teacher of French and German in Judson Institute, Marion, Ala. The latter was educated at New Haven, Conn., is an accomplished scholar and a successful teacher, and a lady of fine character and social qualities.

Coming of the old New England stock and reared on the Western Reserve where mental training was looked upon as greatly to be desired and a high standard of character was common, Mrs. Maynard is worthy of respect as a woman of intelligence, refinement and capability, and one to whom goodwill toward others and interest in the general welfare is second nature.



JUDGE LOUIS S. LOVELL. Among the names held in honor in Ionia County, that which introduces these paragraphs has long had a place. He who bears it came hither many years ago, and has been a potent factor in the well-being of the citizens, bearing a worthy part in the battle of life as a private individual, and acting with ability in prominent positions to which he was called. He is one of the number before whom discouragements flee, and who surmount obstacles that lie in their way without letting the world into the secret of their existence. He has therefore gained a competence where many would have failed, and has pushed to a successful conclusion affairs that in other hands would have resulted far differently.

Judge Lovell was born at Grafton, Windham County, Vt., November 15, 1816, and was the second son of Don and Mary (Shafter) Lovell. His father was a carder and cloth dresser, and in later years a manufacturer. In the spring of 1817 the family removed to Springfield, Windsor County, which was the home until 1841. The father died there August 3, 1839, and some two years later the widow brought four children to this State. Her

son George G., who is now a resident of Spring Lake, Ottawa County, had come West in 1829, and located in Kalamazoo County. He and our subject are the only living members of the parental family.

In his early boyhood Judge Lovell attended the district school and performed such services as he could in his father's factory. He was afterward a pupil at Chester and Bellows Falls, and in 1836 was graduated from Middlebury College. In the fall of that year he went South and taught school in Georgia about two years. His tastes leading him to legal lore, he studied law in the office of Judge Closson, in Springfield, Vt., and D. E. Wheeler, of New York. After the death of his father he settled the estate and in 1841 followed his mother and other members of the family to Ionia. Shortly after his arrival here he was admitted to the bar, but he found both business and pay poor. His first suit which he attended, secured to him the fee of a swarm of bees.

The early struggles of Judge Lovell, and his experiences during the first few years of his residence here, would perhaps be of no special value in pointing the moral of his life, nor of unusual interest as a matter of biographical history. In 1849 he was appointed by President Taylor Registrar of the United States land office at Ionia. During part of 1856-57, he acted as Judge of Probate, and during the latter year he was elected Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and re-elected successively in 1863, 1869 and 1875. In this position he won the goodwill of the ablest lawyers of the State, and presided with the dignity and impartiality that challenged the respect of all. With conscientious zeal he thoroughly mastered the details of judicial duty, and came to his work excellently equipped. He has honored every position to which he has been called, by proving faithful, capable and eminently trustworthy.

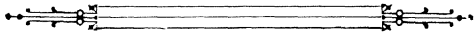
The year after his arrival in Ionia, Judge Lovell returned East, and in Hoosick Falls, N. Y., July 14, 1842, was united in marriage with Mary Thayer. This lady was a native of the Green Mountain State and a daughter of Adin and Mary Thayer. She was always highly esteemed, being possessed of fine social qualities and a noble character, and like her husband she won a secure place in the affections of



Truly Yours
Jas. A. Sage

her associates. She was called from time to eternity November 7, 1890, and her loss is sadly felt, not only in her home, but in the church and social circles with which she was connected for wellnigh half a century. She was the mother of three children: Homer T., a resident of Chicago; Henry H., a hardware dealer in Grand Rapids; and Mary L.

Judge Lovell is now one of the officers in the First National Bank of Ionia, having the position of Vice President. He is not only interested in banking, but in lumbering and money loaning, and has for some time past paid no attention to law outside of his own business. He takes a lively interest in all matters that affect the prosperity or credit of his city or county, and is desirous of the best good of the nation. In former days he was a Whig, his first vote having been cast for William Henry Harrison. In later years he has been identified with the Republican party, and he was able to aid a second Gen. Harrison to the highest office within the gift of the people. He belongs to the Presbyterian Church, with which his wife was identified, and both names are recalled among the active workers for the church.



JAMES A. SAGE. One of the active business men of Ionia is this gentleman who has charge of the affairs of the Ionia Pottery Company, which has an extended reputation among dealers in such goods as are manufactured at its works and has a trade of vast dimensions in the Northwest. Mr. Sage has been Secretary and Treasurer of the corporation for several years and has had the oversight of its business interests. He has an abundance of energy, much financial tact, and the qualities necessary to one who would get the best work from those who are in his employ or under his charge.

Mr. Sage is a son of the Empire State, born in Monroe County, near Rochester, October 11, 1835. His parents, Hiram and Sally (Rowley) Sage, were born in New York and his mother is still living, now in the ninety-first year of her age, and makes

her home with our subject. His father died while our subject was a mere infant. During his boyhood he was taken to Wisconsin in 1844, by his mother and stepfather, and after a short sojourn in Milwaukee found a home in Jefferson County. There he remained about fifteen years, coming to this State in 1861. A home was made in Otisco Township, Ionia County, where he followed teaching one term, and carried on farming until some months after the Civil War began. Loyalty and the belief that the contest going on was destined to be longer and harder than had at first been thought, led Mr. Sage to enter the ranks of his country's defenders.

The enlistment of Mr. Sage took place August 8, 1862, and he was enrolled in Company B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and was appointed Orderly Sergeant. His company did provost duty at Louisville and Bowling Green, Ky., for a few months. In 1863 the regiment crossed the Cumberland Mountains with Gen. Burnside and did duty in Eastern Tennessee until the ensuing year. As a part of the Twenty-third Corps it then participated in Sherman's campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and in front of the latter city August 6, 1864, Mr. Sage was wounded in the right leg, and for this he now receives a pension. He was taken to the hospital, and being disabled from further service was sent home on leave in September. He went to Cincinnati when his leave expired, and there received his discharge November 30. He had been promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant and had won the reputation of a gallant soldier and true patriot.

Mr. Sage returned to his former home and resumed his agricultural work, following teaching during the winters for the two succeeding years. But after a time he sold his farm and engaged in the foundry at Smyrna. In 1876 he was called upon to take a public position, being elected Registrar of Deeds on the Republican ticket. In 1878, having been renominated by acclamation, he was re-elected. When he finally retired from the office he went into business life and on the formation of the Pottery Company was elected to the offices he is now filling therein. Prior to his occupancy of the office of Registrar of Deeds he was Supervisor

of Otisco Township four years. Politically speaking he is a Republican of the straightest type.

The marriage of Mr. Sage and Miss Sarah A. Purdy was solemnized November 29, 1860, and was blest by the birth of three daughters—Lettie M., Minnie B. and Hattie R. Minnie B., who was born November 19, 1866, died October 22, 1872. The eldest daughter is now the wife of W. H. Booth. Mrs. Sage is remembered with grateful affection by many for her services in the care of the sick. No one in the community was more frequently called upon or proved more capable than she, and her deft ways and extreme kindness will long be remembered. She entered into rest February 17, 1886.

A portrait of Mr. Sage appears elsewhere in this volume.



ORVILLE S. SATTERLEE is of English descent, and from his long line of genealogy we trace him back to an illustrious family. The Satterlee family came to this country from England about 1670. The first record we have of the name in England, was that of a Suffolk knight living in King Henry's time, about 1235. From him is traced the lineal descent to Thomas, the last Lord of Satterlee, who was dispossessed by Edward IV. for his adherence to the Lancaster cause. This gentleman died in 1479, and lies buried with his wife Elizabeth, in the churchyard of the Austrian Friar in the city of Warwick, Suffolk, England.

The Satterlees probably originated in Suffolk, England, but had their property confiscated by King Edward IV. about the year 1469, and moved down the coast to Devonshire. There is positive evidence that there was a family who spelled their name Satherly, residing in Devonshire in the sixteenth century, and bearing the same coat-of-arms as the Suffolk Satterlees. William Satterlee resided in Exeter, Devonshire, England, about 1650, and was the father of Benedict Satterlee, who emigrated to America. Thus we have some generations back chronicled to William Satterlee, of Exeter, Devonshire, England.

Benedict Satterlee married the widow of John

Dimond, August 12, 1682, at New London, Conn., having come to America a single man. To him were born—Sarah, Rebecca and William. To William were born William, Jr., on the 7th of November, 1712; Benedict, on the 11th of August, 1714; John, May 1, 1716; Ann, May 16, 1718; Abigail, April 12, 1720; Mary, June 6, 1721; Rebecca, March 1, 1724, and Lucy, January 6, 1726. To William Satterlee, Jr., were born Dariah, Jemimah, Mollie and Jonas. To Jonas were born John, Jonas, Jr., Polly, Lucy, Elisha and Bridget. To Jonas, Jr. was born John G., May 4, 1792. John G. in turn became the father of Nancy A., November 18, 1819; Orville S., December 28, 1821; Perez B., May 7, 1825; Julia G., April 24, 1827; and James A. B., March 1, 1831.

The birthplace of Orville S. Satterlee was Saratoga County, N. Y. He is the son of John G. and Nancy H. (Weed) Satterlee, who are natives of Connecticut. Jonas Satterlee, the grandfather of our subject, followed the sea for twenty years and lived to be ninety-five years of age. He was in the mercantile trade with the West Indies and his wife's name was Lydia Billings. Several members of the Satterlee family followed the sea, going out from New London.

John G., the father of our subject followed farming pursuits, hotel-keeping, owned a mill, held various offices, was a man of more than ordinary ability and became quite wealthy, but lost much of his property by loaning money in Ionia. After living in New York many years, he removed to Connecticut, where he died. He had been three times married. To himself and the mother of our subject were born five children, one of whom was drowned when but a very small child. Orville is the only survivor.

The subject of this sketch, as one would judge from his father's pursuits, was reared to various kinds of work, but chiefly to farming. He came to Michigan in 1842, located in Portland, and owned a piece of land about five miles from this place. He cleared thirty acres of it, but soon sold out and went to Appleton, Wis., where he worked at journey work, and here he was married to Mary Rogers, May 9, 1854. Mrs. Satterlee is the daughter of Richard Rogers, of New York. After marriage Mr.

Satterlee came back at once to Portland, bought a farm and built a home. He soon afterward sold out, owning this home less than a year and bought another tract of land. After visiting Connecticut, he went to work on his new purchase, improved it, but afterward sold out at the beginning of the war. He then bought a half-interest in the grist-mill, which he kept over a year. His present farm on which he resides is an elegant one. He has sold from it several village lots, and also three acres for a cemetery.

To our subject and his estimable wife has been born one daughter, Addie, now wife of Erastus Briggs, a resident of Bellaire, Antrim County, Mich. The wife of our subject is a consistent and conscientious member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Satterlee votes the Republican ticket, and owns a fine summer home at Charlevoix that he occupies a part of the time, enjoying the fruits of industry which he has acquired in the brief span of life usually allotted to mankind.



MARSHALL W. ALVORD, a farmer on section 25. Ronald Township, Ionia County, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., January 2, 1813. His father, Josiah Alvord, was a native of Massachusetts and a tanner by occupation. His mother bore the maiden name of Lydia White. Soon after the marriage of this couple they located in New York, making their home in Wayne County about the year 1815. They lived in the town of Palmyra for about twelve years. They came to Michigan in 1834 and located in Lenawee County, traveling by team and wagon. They took up Government land, built a log house and improved the land. The mother was called from earth in 1853 and the father survived her until 1860. They were the parents of six children, three daughters and three sons, none of whom are now surviving except the subject of this sketch.

He of whom we write found his earliest education in Palmyra, N. Y. He worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-four years of age. After this he worked out by the month and at splitting

rails. December 27, 1841, he was united in marriage with Leah Beal, a native of Monroe County, N. Y., born there April 18, 1817. Her parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (Claghorn) Beal, were natives of Massachusetts and were among the early settlers of Michigan. Our subject settled first in Adrian, then in Fairfield, where his father first took up Government land. There he made his home in a log cabin with many Indians about him, and remained twenty years on that farm. In 1853 he removed to the place which is now his home. He found there a log house and about twenty acres of land under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Alvord are the parents of seven children, five daughters and two sons—Cornelia, deceased; Lucy, Mrs. Benjamin Everest; Martin L., deceased; Lydia, Mrs. Thomas Cobb; Ellen, Edwin; Ida, Mrs. Fred Knaggs.

Mr. Alvord is not a robust man and is unable to do the heavy work upon the farm. He keeps hired help to aid him in cultivating his one hundred broad acres of land. He is a pillar in the Methodist Episcopal Church, having made his profession of faith over sixty years ago, and having been a Class-Leader for forty years and a Trustee of the local church almost from its first organization. He cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840, and he is now a member of the Prohibition party.



EDWARD O. BELDING, an enterprising young farmer of Ionia County, is located on section 7, Otisco Township, where he was born in 1864. The homestead consists of one hundred and seventy acres with good improvements, is well stocked, and is the source of abundant crops. The young man who now operates it was reared with a thorough knowledge of agriculture, and having remained with his parents during their lifetime, he is continuing the work begun by his father years ago.

The grandfather of our subject was Tiberius Belding, who came to this State during the years of its early history, and settled in Otisco Township in 1840. Here he remained until his death. He

was accompanied hither by a son Francis W., who was born in Massachusetts, and was ten years of age at the time of the removal. The son remained with his parents until after he became of age, when he established a home of his own, marrying Miss Julia E. Day. The children born of this union are Edward O., Ralph W., Blanche D., Grace E. and Pearl D. Ralph and Blanche now live in Belding and the others remain on the homestead. The father served acceptably as Township Treasurer. He died in 1879, and his widow survived until 1888.

The subject of these brief biographical notes, it will be seen, is the first-born in the parental family. After the death of his father he remained with his widowed mother as the staff of her declining years, and continues to hold the position of head of the family, while his sisters look after his comfort in womanly ways. He was well educated in the schools of the vicinity, and keeps himself well-informed by means of newspapers and contact with his fellowmen. He was formerly a member of the Grange, and is now identified with the Patrons of Industry. His vote is cast with the Republican party. He is a young man of good habits, ambitious to do well in his chosen work, and he is succeeding in his worldly affairs, and gaining the commendation of acquaintances.



WILLIAM J. CONNER, a pioneer of Easton Township, Ionia County, and a farmer on section 29, is a native of Orange County, N. Y., where he was born August 22, 1832. He is descended from Irish and Scotch ancestry, his father being Jared Conner and his mother having borne the maiden name of Caroline McCord; both came from New York. His parents had but two children, their daughter Caroline dying early. This family emigrated in 1832 to Oakland County, Mich., and in February, 1835, they came to Ionia County, where they settled in Easton Township on the banks of the Grand River on property now owned by James S. Sanford.

A log cabin in the woods was the first home of this household and after making some removals

he finally settled in Grand Haven, Mich., in the year 1849, and died there the following year; his wife survived him until July, 1884. He was a Democrat in politics and a sturdy, hard-working man, enduring the usual hardships incident to pioneer life. He built the Bellamy sawmill near Grand River in 1836 and was one of the early sawmill men of Easton Township.

W. J. Conner has been reared to manhood in this county and except a few years spent in the lumber business at Grand Haven has been a farmer all his life. He received his education in the primitive schools of Michigan, and has supplemented those scanty advantages by a habit of reading which has kept him well informed in regard to all matters of public interest. His wife, Temperance (Lemon) Conner to whom he was joined in marriage March 3, 1857, was born September 13, 1832, in Oakland County, this State. She was a daughter of William and Hannah (Conner) Lemon. When ten years old she emigrated with her parents to the Grand River Valley in Ionia County, where her father became one of the early settlers of Easton Township. Of the large family born to her parents three only survive: Francis J. living in Idaho; George in Kansas; and Mrs. Conner. Her parents were both members and influential supporters of the Congregational Church. Mr. and Mrs. Conner have nine living children: Edward resides on the old home farm; Frank, Jerry, Harvey, Charles, Ferry, George, Cassius and Gordan.

The subject of this sketch has resided since 1856 on his present farm. He owns about three hundred acres of land, which has been gained by the hard labors of himself and his faithful helpmate and counselor. They have done much pioneer work and have borne bravely the hardships incidental to the life of an early settler. He has been a Democrat all his life but indorses the principles of the Greenback party. His father built the first barn in Palo, Mich., which is still standing. His father and uncle brought up the Grand River from Grand Rapids to Ionia the first load of flour and other merchandise which came in that way. The boat they used was hewed out of a whitewood tree and was virtually a canoe. They brought as ballast sixteen barrels of flour with lighter goods on

top. Mr. and Mrs. Conner are widely and well known for their hospitality and are the center of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Conner is a well-informed man both on general topics and on political subjects, and his fine estate attests to his industry, hard labor and good business capacity. We are well pleased to present him among the many intelligent and public-spirited pioneers of Central Michigan.

The great-grandfather of our subject, John Conner, and a Mr. O'Neil owned at one time a whole county in Ireland which was confiscated from them during an insurrection, and shortly thereafter he made his advent in America, settling in Orange County, N. Y., and spent his last days there.



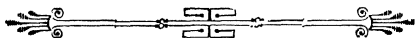
MRS. JULIA E. HARTWELL is the daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Hanson) Arnold, and the widow of Tylee D. Hartwell, and mother of Thomas O. Hartwell, whose sketch will be found on another page of this work. Her parents were both natives of Saratoga County, N. Y., her father being born there February 5, 1798, and her mother June 26, 1802. Her grandfather, Thomas Arnold, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving gallantly under Gen. Washington. Her father died May 2, 1877, and the mother April 22, 1891. Seven of their twelve children are now living. Mrs. Arnold was a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Arnold took an active interest in political matters and was a Democrat. He was Township Supervisor, also Justice of the Peace and was greatly interested in school matters.

Mrs. Hartwell was born August 24, 1826, in Saratoga County, N. Y. She attended the district school until fourteen years of age and then completed her studies at the Female Academy at Ballston Spa. She married June 4, 1845, Tylee D. Hartwell, a son of Thomas and Phœbe (Rogers) Hartwell, natives of Saratoga County, N. Y. His parents always resided in that county. Four of their six children are now living. His father was a farmer and held slaves in New York until they were emancipated. The husband of Mrs. Hartwell

was born August 24, 1819, in Saratoga County, N. Y. By a district school education supplemented by home study he prepared for teaching and was at the teacher's desk for seven years. After that he attended the academy at Ft. Edward for a year or two, then he went to an institution at Elizabethtown, N. J., preparing for the ministry. He continued here for one year; he finally felt compelled to give up a thorough course of preparation for the pulpit but was always a great Christian worker and when a pulpit supply was lacking in the new country he sometimes filled it.

In 1855 Tylee D. Hartwell and his wife came to Michigan and settled on section 8, Berlin Township, upon the farm where Thomas O. Hartwell now lives. They came by rail to Kalamazoo, then staged it to Grand Rapids, and thence took a little steamer to Saranac under the guidance of Capt. Coon. They settled in a dense forest where for three years Mrs. Hartwell did not see the sun rise or set, nor did she hear a rooster crow except their own. There were no roads except one north to the river, but Mr. Hartwell was a tremendous worker and he accomplished an enormous amount of labor. The farm was "slashed" and the trees and brush all burned down. The house and two barns he built himself. With his wife's help he set out two hundred fruit trees and built all the fences. He died May 26, 1880, practically from exposure and overwork. Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell were the parents of four children, two of whom are now living: Katie, born November 7, 1847, died May 6, 1859; Jennie, born May 21, 1851, died January 5, 1854; Thomas O., born December 12, 1860 (see sketch); and Alice E., born August 8, 1867, is married to Ernest E. Wagar, and lives in the village of Wagar about fifty miles north of Mobile, Ala., where Mr. Wagar is largely engaged in the lumber business. The parents of these children were both members of the Baptist Church, in which the father was both Trustee and Deacon. He also took a very active part in Sunday-school work. He was more than ordinarily successful as a Bible Class teacher and when at Saranac was Superintendent. Mrs. Hartwell has also been a teacher in the Sunday-school. Her husband was active in local school matters and for many years was Director in the schools. He

also took an active part in politics and was an ardent Democrat. He was Justice of the Peace and Supervisor, was everywhere respected for his noble Christian character and was the means of much good in both temperance and church work. By his first wife, Anna Graham, who died December 15, 1843, Mr. Hartwell had one child, Eliza Ann, who died aged three years.



JAMES M. HAZELITT. This gentleman has been a factor in the agricultural and financial progress of Ionia County during a quarter of a century, and is widely known as one who has made a success of the enterprise in which he was engaged and built up a most comfortable home. He resides on section 27, Ronald Township, where he owns one hundred and four acres of well-improved land, the management of which is mainly in the hands of his son. The most conspicuous of the buildings on the farm is a large brick house, which contains fourteen rooms, being two stories in height, with the main body 16x28 feet and having three wings. The other structures are conveniently located, afford ample accommodations for stock and crops and are well arranged for the successful prosecution of farm work. Mr. Hazelitt himself gives his chief attention to money loaning in which he has been engaged some fifteen years. He acts as an agent for capitalists and loans from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per year. He shows financial tact of a high order and most excellent judgment as a broker.

Mr. Hazelitt was born in Wayne County, Pa., near Honesdale, November 9, 1838. He is a direct descendant of John Hazelitt, who was born in Ireland, came to America in Colonial days and was a soldier in the Revolution. Following him in the direct line of descent was James Hazelitt, who was born in New Jersey, followed the occupations of a farmer and carpenter in that State and later in New York. The father of our subject was John Hazelitt who was born in 1807; he was the son of James, who was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., and chose farming as his life vocation. He married Sarah,

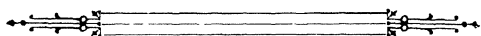
who was born in 1804 and was a daughter of George Rolison; her birthplace was in the same county as his own. For some time the young couple made their home in Pennsylvania, then went to Tompkins County, N. Y., and located on a farm. Thence they came to Michigan in 1865, first establishing themselves in Kalamazoo County, but later coming to Ionia County. They settled on land five miles northeast of the county seat and spent the remnant of their days there, the father dying January 18, 1872, and the mother January 27, 1880.

Our subject is the third child and only son in the parental family. His sisters are Mary A., now deceased; Hannah, wife of M. D. Smith, whose home is in Allegan County; Sarah, Mrs. D. K. Snyder, now of Kalamazoo County; and Addie S., now deceased, who was the wife of Frank B. Delany. Mr. Hazelitt was four years old when he accompanied his parents to New York, in whose district schools he was educated. He did not leave his parents' house until he was twenty-one years old, but he then bought a farm of forty acres in Steuben County and established a home of his own. After occupying the place a twelvemonth he came to Michigan and made his home in Pavilion Township, Kalamazoo County. There he bought forty acres of land which he operated until his removal to his present location. Without neglecting his farm he gave some attention to money-loaning and when his son was able to take control of the place, he gave it into his hands for management.

When he came to Ionia County Mr. Hazelitt first bought eighty acres of land, from which he sold off twenty-eight acres, but he subsequently purchased fifty-two and a half acres and on this last tract he now lives. The lady who has charge of the household affairs became his wife November 26, 1859, prior to which time she was known as Miss Mary E. Houck. She was born in Yates County, N. Y., June 2, 1838, and was the oldest of six children. Her parents, Peter and Electa (Bigelow) Houck, were natives of New York, and in that State the mother died. The father spent his last days in Michigan. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Hazelitt brought to them three sons—J. Irving, Peter and Delos. The first named is the only one living, Peter having died when four months old

and Delos lived to the age of but four weeks. Irving was born in Steuben County, N. Y., June 5, 1861. He is married and is living on section 26, Ronald Township. He has two children—Herman G. and Edith Pearl.

In various lines of work carried on by the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Hazelitt are members, both take an active part. Mr. Hazelitt has been Steward twenty-three years. He is a man of pronounced temperance views and principles and is identified with the Republican party.



GEORGE W. DAVENPORT is one of the farmers of Ionia County, and has lived for several decades on a tract of land to which he went immediately after his marriage. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which are the improvements usually made by a man of enterprising spirit, and from the cultivation of which ample compensation is derived for the labor expended thereon. Mr. Davenport is able to make some provision for a rainy day and to do considerable toward aiding those who are in need and hastening the wheels of progress in this section. He shows in his character, traits which to a close observer are confirmatory evidence of his ancestry, although his progenitors for several generations were American born. In the paternal line he is of English descent and on his mother's side claims Scotch and Dutch blood.

Mr. Davenport was born in Ulster County, N. Y., February 14, 1821, being a son of Beverly and Gertrude (Foster) Davenport. His maternal grandfather, Samuel Foster, was for five years a soldier in the Revolutionary army and was present when Gen. Washington delivered his farewell address at the close of the struggle for independence. He died in Genesee County, N. Y., at a good old age.

The father of our subject was born in 1765 and fought in the War of 1812. He died when his son George was but ten years old, and the lad was put out to live with a neighbor, with whom he remained some three years, after which he started out to do

for himself. He was of course unable to obtain more than a fundamental education, but after his marriage and establishment of a home, he added much to his fund of knowledge.

In January, 1847, Mr. Davenport was married to Miss Lucinda Barrett, daughter of Alexander and Polly (Jones) Barrett. The parents of the bride were natives of Massachusetts and came to this State in 1832, locating in Bridgewater, Washtenaw County. There the father died after a long residence, but the mother ended her days with her only son, Albert, in the village of Portland, in 1862. Mrs. Davenport was a teacher prior to her marriage and has always tried to keep well abreast of the times in her knowledge of passing events and the discoveries made in various fields.

Mr. and Mrs. Davenport have no children of their own, but have given a home to a boy and girl, one of whom remained with them from early childhood until her marriage, and the other until he was of age and fitted for a man's work in the world. The girl, Susan Templer, married Harmon Follett, a farmer of Branch County, and died leaving four children. The boy, Henry Garasha, was brought West by the Children's Aid Society from New York City, and is now a Notary Public in Chicago and reflecting credit upon those who gave him a home and parental care. Mr. and Mrs. Davenport cared for the aged mother of the husband the last twelve years of her life, during which time she was a confirmed invalid, and for the last twenty-two years his elder brother, who has the misfortune to be deaf and dumb and has been in ill health much of the time, has made his home with them.

In the month in which their marriage took place Mr. and Mrs. Davenport made their home on the farm which had been purchased a year or two before. The typical pioneer dwelling—a log house with stick chimney—stood upon it in a small clearing. The country around was sparsely settled, wolves howled near their home, and red men haunted the forests, they however, being peaceable and well disposed. Mr. Davenport had the pleasure of attending one of their harvest or green corn dances, and also witnessed a medicine dance on the occasion of injuries received by one of them in

falling from a horse. These ceremonies as he describes them are very interesting, and so too are his accounts of pioneer life, of which few know more than he, as his parents located in Washtenaw County in 1827 and from his early childhood he was surrounded with primitive scenes.

Mr. Davenport is identified with the Democratic party but cannot be called a politician. He served as Justice of the Peace three terms, was Township Treasurer five years, and has held other positions of public trust. He and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Portland for thirty-five years, are consistent Christians and honored by all who know their characters and lives. After years of toil and privation they are now rejoicing in a cozy home and are passing their declining years serene in the thought that they have been of use in the world.



SIMON TOWN is a prominent citizen of Muir, Ionia County, and one of her best known business men, carrying on the sale of general merchandise in a good building on Superior Street. He has a carefully selected stock of goods, suited to the needs and desires of his patrons, and attractively arranged for their view. Straightforward methods are used in disposing of them and courtesy is shown to the customers, and thus a flourishing trade is carried on. Mr. Town is postmaster, having been appointed by President Harrison in 1889, and his official station increases his acquaintance with the people of the contiguous territory.

Simon Town, grandfather of our subject, was a native of New York and was of English extraction. He was an extensive farmer and reared a large family. He lived to be seventy-six years old. He was a man of large physical proportions and of correspondingly large-heartedness. His son Stephen, father of our subject, was born in New York and reared to the father's occupation. He carried on his enterprise in Onondaga County until 1833, when he came to Michigan, settling on what is now the State road between Jackson and Lansing, but

was then only an Indian trail. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, five miles north of Jackson, there being at that time no houses south of his home to where Lansing now stands, and there he resided until 1851, when he removed to Lyons Township, Ionia County. He bought property near the village of Lyons and spent the remainder of his life there. His first farm in the State was a heavily timbered one where he had much arduous work to do.

The wife of Stephen Town and mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Schuyler. She too was born in New York and in the same State her parents, John and Hannah (Loomis) Schuyler, opened their eyes to the light. From 1846 until their death they lived in Ohio. Mr. Schuyler was a farmer in the Mohawk Valley in previous years, and during the War of 1812 he fought for American rights.

The family of Stephen Town and his faithful companion comprised six children, but Simon is the sole survivor. He was born in Jackson County, this State, February 17, 1836, and the first school he attended was in a building three-quarters of a mile from his home. After coming to Lyons he went to the High School and upon completing the course of study, taught during the winter months eight years, devoting the summers to farm work. After the expiration of that period he took charge of the homestead, and operated it until 1878, then sold it and went to the village of Lyons. There Mr. Town engaged in the mercantile business two years and thence he came to Muir and bought his present edifice, into which he moved his stock.

Among the recollections of boyhood that brighten the memory of Mr. Town is seeing the Governor and staff pass his home in wagons on their way to the Capital, and their attempts to pry the wheels out of the mud in which they sometimes stuck. On one occasion the Governor was a passenger in the stage and it broke down and His Excellency spent the interval devoted to repairs in the dwellings of the town. Our subject also recollects the removal of the Indians to a Territory farther West, the passage of the Government troops on horseback and the red men on foot.

In 1861 Mr. Town was married to Miss Melissa



A. J. Halcomb



Mrs. A. J. Holcomb

A. Williams, of Lyons Township, Ionia County, a lady of energy and capability under whose control his home is made comfortable and attractive. The circle around the hearthstone includes Camilla L., Arthur M., Cora and Iva, the eldest of whom is Assistant Postmaster. As might well be supposed, they have received as good opportunities as possible to advance their knowledge and fit themselves for usefulness and honor. Mr. Town was Township School Inspector for a number of years, and has held other local offices. Politically he is a Republican. In all that goes to make up good citizenship and tends to the progress of the village he is conspicuous and of good repute.



ALBERT J. HOLCOMB. Among the residents of Montcalm County there are to be found many who have made their own way, or who have begun their work in life with a limited capital, and whose careers have been characterized by perseverance, good management and wise economy. An example of this kind is to be found in the person of Mr. Holcomb, now numbered among the thrifty farmers of Crystal Township. His home farm consists of eighty acres on section 31, from which he removed stumps and stones, and which he enclosed and sub-divided by good fences, and improved with adequate farm buildings. His dwelling is a tasteful, two-story, ten-room house, well furnished, and kept in perfect order by his wife, who is a notable housekeeper.

The parents of our subject were Jesse and Amorphtha (Kendall) Holcomb, natives of New York, but residents of Ionia County, this State, for a number of years. The father was a tailor and followed his trade during his early life, but in later years gave his attention to farming. The son, of whom we write, was born in Ionia County, August 17, 1848, and grew to manhood on the farm. When old enough to take a part in the work carried on there he attended school only in the winter, until he was nineteen years of age, after which he devoted most of the time for three or four years to attendance in the High School in

Ionia. He therefore acquired a practical education and gained a thorough knowledge of farming and business principles.

When Mr. Holcomb began his personal career he had some trying experiences, as he was poor in this world's goods and the help he expected from his parents was not given him, owing to the death of his father. That good man passed away May 9, 1869, and when his estate was divided our subject received \$460, and at the final settlement received \$282 more. He bargained for the farm he now lives upon and made his payments by working in the lumber camps, while at the same time doing what he could to clear his land. He found a log cabin on the place and in it he lived fourteen years. Although it was not attractive in appearance it was comfortable, and Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb were happy and passed many of their most pleasant days in their cabin home. This they were content to occupy until they had made good arrangements for the accommodation of their stock and the housing of the crops they wished to store. A commodious barn was built in 1879 and other farm buildings have been put up from time to time, and an orchard set out. Mr. Holcomb gives considerable attention to raising sheep and cattle, and also keeps good horses. Beside the home place, he has forty acres which is also under cultivation.

The wife of Mr. Holcomb was known in her maidenhood as Miss Ella Root, and their marriage was solemnized November 22, 1869. Mrs. Holcomb was born in Jackson County, March 25, 1852, and was educated in Ionia. A year after her marriage she taught school one term while her husband worked in the lumber woods. She is the daughter of James N. and Clarissa A. (Slack) Root. She has as great a love for good horses as her husband and sympathizes with him in his work and tastes. They have no children, but have an adopted son, George W., who has been with them about eleven years.

Mr. Holcomb is now holding the office of Justice of the Peace for a second term and for ten years he has been Assessor of the district. In politics he is a Prohibitionist and has taken an active interest in the reform movement, doing much to carry the local option measure in the township. He is in-

terested in the general welfare to such an extent as to take part in public enterprises that promise well, and particularly in educational projects. When he and his good wife were young they had many hardships to endure in clearing a home from the primeval wilderness, and her parents used every effort to dissuade them from attempting to clear and improve the land. However, they were not easily discouraged and by their united efforts have not only attained success financially, but have set a worthy example for all to follow. We are pleased to present, in connection with this biographical notice, lithographic portraits of this worthy couple, who are regarded with respect by all who know them.



DANIEL B. MOREHEAD. A goodly number of men have gained a competence sufficient to supply every reasonable want and are now enjoying the results of former industry in Montcalm County. One of this number is the gentleman above named, whose beautiful home is in Edmore, where for some years he was engaged in business, and with the social, financial and religious growth of which he is still closely identified. He is the oldest settler in Edmore, owns the finest block and residence in the town and has other investments there, including shares in the Robinson Opera House, of which he is one of the originators.

Mr. Morehead traces his lineage to two of the best known nationalities represented in America, the Scotch-Irish and the German. His grandfather Morehead was born in the Emerald Isle and crossed the water when a young man, locating in Virginia and making that State his permanent home. In Brooks County his son Andrew, father of our subject, was born and thence he went to Stark County, Ohio, when a young man. He improved a farm on which he lived fifteen years, then sold it and changed his residence to Carroll County, where he bought eighty acres and cultivated it until his strength gave out. He died there in 1874. He was a Democrat in politics and a Presbyterian in

religion. He was married in Stark County to Lydia Burger, who was born in New York and was a daughter of Daniel Burger, a native of Pennsylvania and of German extraction. Grandfather Burger was a stone-mason and farmer. He was an early settler in Stark County, Ohio, which was his last earthly home. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 27, 1829, and was the third of twelve children, eleven of whom lived to maturity. He passed his early days on the farm and attended the district school, conning his lessons while occupying a slab bench. Later he was privileged to spend one term at Mt. Union College, in Ohio. From the age of nineteen to twenty-two years he was engaged in carpenter work, having picked up a knowledge of that handicraft because of his natural aptness in handling tools. He then devoted the winters to teaching and the summers to the trade until 1855, in the spring of which year he went to Illinois. He established himself at New Massillon, Wayne County, and worked at his trade there nine months, then returned to Ohio and again followed teaching.

For ten winters Mr. Morehead taught school, and during the years included became the owner of one hundred acres of land near his birthplace, that he improved. The summer after he bought the property the frost killed his wheat and other crops. He took a school eight miles away, and two-thirds of the time boarded at home, walking back and forth night and morning, and doing his own work. The payments on the place were made by teaching. Mr. Morehead lived on the farm six years, then sold and bought another tract near, on which he staid two years, next renting it and moving into Minerva. There he became book-keeper and salesman in a furniture manufactory, and staid two years. During the time he was on the farm he was Justice of the Peace one term.

In the fall of 1868 Mr. Morehead came to this State and began the manufacture of shingles, sash, doors and blinds in Union City, continuing the business nine years, and also making the Bertrand & Sames corn cultivator, putting out three thousand of them. Mr. Morehead sold out his business and bought a farm near the town, paying \$17,000

for two hundred and eighty acres, and for three years gave his attention to farming. In this occupation he proved rather unfortunate and was obliged to sell his farm for less than he paid for it. In 1879 he came to Edmore and for a year carried on the Junction House. He then bought out a stock of groceries and a building and a year later added to the store room, continuing the business six years. Deciding to retire at the expiration of that period he sold out, and the very next spring, the building having been destroyed by fire, he bought the site again and put up a fine brick block. Mr. Morehead has manufactured a great many screw power stump machines that work very successfully.

The present residence of Mr. Morehead was built in 1883 after his own design and is the finest, largest and most costly house in town. It is presided over by the lady who became his wife in Carroll County, Ohio, October 28, 1852, and whose maiden name was Mary J. Youngker. She was born near Minerva September 14, 1835, and received her education in the High School of that place. She is an accomplished and agreeable lady, and her amiable disposition wins many friends. She has a decided talent for art, has given much time to painting and taught the use of the pencil and brush. She has often taken premiums at the fairs, and she also does beautiful fancy work of various kinds.

Mr. and Mrs. Morehead have six children: Hiram B., a grocer in Edmore; Lydia J., wife of Capt. H. K. Summers of Grand Rapids; Orien A., head waiter in the Grand Pacific hotel in Chicago, Ill.; Frank McC., book-keeper at Glenwood Springs, Col.; Adrian Lyeurgus, a wholesale shipper of potatoes, from this State to the South and East, and Daniel D., with the Dayton Bell Ringers.

John Youngker, father of Mrs. Morehead, was born in Germany and came to America with his parents. Jacob Youngker located in Brownsville, Pa., and carried on his trade, carpentry there. The son became a shoemaker, and followed his calling near Minerva, Carroll County, whither he removed and entered a tract of new land, on which he made improvements. He belonged to the Lutheran Church. He married Hannah Berry, who

was born in Williamsport, Pa., being a daughter of William Berry, a native of England and a farmer by occupation. This family were of the Methodist faith. Mrs. Youngker came to this State with her daughter, Mrs. Morehead, and died in Union City in 1878, at the home of our subject.

Mr. Morehead is now serving his fourth year as Justice of the Peace, and he has acted as a member of the village Board of Trustees. He belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge and encampment in Edmore, has filled the Chairs, and has been the representative to the Grand Lodge three times and to the Grand Encampment once. He is a Democrat in politics, and has been a delegate to both county and State conventions. He is an official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his wife is also an active member. Both are entertaining and hospitable, and deservedly popular in the community, and their circle of friends is not confined to the town. In 1890 Mr. Morehead went to Manchester, Coffee County, Tenn., on account of ill health, and after nearly a year's residence, returned much benefited by his sojourn in the pure, mild air of the Southern tablelands. He bought an acre of ground there and built a dwelling, so that he was not dependent upon hotel accommodations for his comfort.



WILLIAM R. BOWSER. The Ionia Furniture Company, of which Mr. Bowser is Manager and Secretary, supplies the market with high grades of goods which are being well received. The industry is growing wonderfully, and already ranks among the most prominent commercial institutions of Ionia and those which exert the greatest influence in its upbuilding. Mr. Bowser has been a resident of this place less than a decade, but as many years of his life have been spent within the limits of the county he was not unknown to the citizens here when he joined their ranks.

Mr. Bowser was born in Fulton County, Ohio, April 15, 1845, to John and Annie (Guyer) Bowser, natives of Pennsylvania and Baden Baden, Ger-

many, respectively. The Bowsers came originally from Holland. The parental family comprised two living children and one who died in infancy. The elder of the survivors is George W., Cashier of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company in Wichita, Kan. The parents died when William, their second child, was young and he was brought to this State by his uncle, the Rev. Aaron Bowser, a United Brethren minister and Presiding Elder of a Michigan circuit. In Jackson County he found his first home and in 1854 came to Ionia and became one of the household of J. B. Morehouse, a builder at Portland.

The work of a builder and that of a tiller of the soil were combined by Mr. Bowser under the guidance of Mr. Morehouse until the summer of 1862, when he entered the army, enlisting August 12. He was enrolled in Company K, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and attached to the Army of the Cumberland. The noted engagements in which he fought were Perryville, Stone River, Winchester, Chickamauga, Savannah, Averysboro and Bentonville. At Chickamauga he was wounded, receiving two shots in the leg. He was made Corporal after the battle of Stone River and acted as Sergeant for a year. He was discharged June 20, 1865, although he had been mustered out in Washington, D. C., on June 8th, after participating in the Grand Review.

When the war was over Mr. Bowser formed an association with Mr. Morehouse and built a planing mill in Portland, for the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds. The firm of J. B. Morehouse & Co. also carried a general line of builders' supplies. In 1870 the style was changed to Bowser, Griffin & Co. In November, 1874, Mr. Bowser removed to Harbor Springs, Emmet County, where he farmed and did job work. He was County Clerk there four years, beginning his term of service January 1, 1879. In February, 1885, he returned to Ionia County as an officer of the State House of Correction and Reformatory, having the position of inside gatekeeper until October 19, 1886, when he started a furniture business in the institution. He made use of the services of twenty-seven men in the beginning, which was gradually increased to two hundred, of whom he had charge until June 4,

1890, when he gave up his work there and became Superintendent of the Ionia Furniture Company. Of this enterprise we have already spoken and of the place now filled by Mr. Bowser.

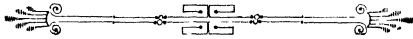
The pleasant home of Mr. Bowser is presided over by an efficient housewife, who was united in marriage to him June 24, 1869. She was born in Manchester, England, bore the maiden name of Fanny M. Swindells, and is a daughter of William and Ann Swindells. To Mr. and Mrs. Bowser a son and daughter have been born: William G., is now working in the factory as a hand carver, and May M. is pursuing her studies in the public school. Mr. and Mrs. Bowser have high standing in the Baptist Church and he is Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He votes the Republican ticket, pursues his course in life energetically yet quietly, and is considered a capable business man and good citizen. He is Adjutant in the Grand Army Post and has held the office for the past three years.



WINSLOW P. BURHANS, a former resident of Ionia, was born in Greene County, N. Y., May 27, 1821. He was a son of Cornelius and Hannah (Leg) Burhans, both natives of the Empire State. The father was a farmer and was descended from Holland Dutch who settled in the Mohawk Valley in that region in the early days. The subject of this sketch was left an orphan when only six years of age, his father dying September 28, 1827. His mother survived until January 8, 1877. Winslow early engaged in the mercantile business and opened a store at Durham, N. Y. He married Rachael A. Dorman July 27, 1847, in Syracuse County, N. Y. Previous to this time he had been for awhile in Milwaukee, Wis.

Winslow P. Burhans and family came to Ionia in 1849. Here he entered into the banking business, which he afterward pursued. He had at one time been engaged in the business of a tannery in Northern New York, but had sold it out in 1846. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and at one time belonged to the Masonic fraternity. He died November 7, 1885. Three

children had blessed this union—Dolly D., wife of Willis Van Devanter, is living in Cheyenne, Wyo. This young man is now Chief Justice of that State, the youngest Chief Justice in the United States. Winslow P., Jr., died in early childhood, but a third child received the same name, and this one is now attending school. Mrs. Burhans has recently erected an elegant home on the corner of LaFayette and Rich Streets, which is one of the handsomest properties in the city. The first story is built of Ionia sandstone and the second of shingles. She is a lady of fine executive ability and is engaged in much good work in behalf of both the churches and charities of the town. She is the worthy widow of a worthy citizen who was ever alive to the interests of the community in which he lived, and by his energy and enterprise acquired a valuable property. Politically Mr. Burhans was a stanch Democrat.



GEORGE HOSFORD is one of the earliest settlers in Berlin Township, Ionia County. He has given his time, strength and thought to the culture of fruit and has made in this direction a splendid record. His New Mammoth Seedling and his Berlin Seedling grapes bear a splendid reputation, having taken premiums wherever exhibited, and being highly commended at the Centennial in 1876. His father, Samuel Hosford was a shoemaker by trade in New York State, near Cayuga Lake. His mother was a native of the same State and bore the maiden name of Sallie Shaw. She was left a widow after some fifteen years of married life and her second marriage was with Ezra Winslow, a soldier in the War of 1812. Both are now dead. By her first marriage she became the mother of four children, only one of whom, our subject, now survives. By her second marriage she bore three children.

George Hosford was born in July, 1823, upon the old New York homestead. When only fourteen years of age he evinced his ambition and enterprise by leaving home and coming alone to the new country. His parents when they came to

Michigan in 1833 had settled in Oakland, but later came to Ionia County, and in 1837 settled on section 4, Easton Township, where they spent the remnant of their days. Our subject made his home with his stepfather for several years and worked with him at the trade of a stonemason, but began for himself when he was eighteen years of age. When he came here there was but one frame house in Ionia City. The place where the court house now stands was all woods. At this point the trees had been girdled but farther up the country all was native and undisturbed forests. For a number of years the young man worked at his trade and gained the means to buy forty acres of land on section 4, of Easton Township. He cleared thirty acres of this wild land and about one hundred acres for other people, chopping, logging, clearing and fencing. He found all his implements and kept himself, charging his neighbors \$10 an acre for his services. He raised crops of wheat, corn and potatoes and lived on this farm until the war broke out.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was on May 5, 1849 united in marriage to Harriet J. Abbott, a daughter of Gilbert and Charlotte Abbott, who were early settlers in Boston Township. They are both now deceased. By this marriage Mr. Hosford had five children—Orvis, born May 23, 1850, married Edith Grant; with their four children they live in Cedar Springs. Ellen, born August 5, 1852, is the wife of Dr. Wilson of Grand Rapids. Warren, born April 25, 1854, was united in marriage to Allie Harter; he also lives in Grand Rapids and is the father of two children. Minnie, born March 12, 1856, is Mrs. Byron Weeden. With her husband and two children she resides in Grand Rapids. Bert, born December 5, 1868, remains at home with his father. The mother of these children was called from earth July 27, 1876, at the age of forty-six years. Mr. Hosford's second wife was Mrs. Annie E. Harris, whom he married October 14, 1876. She is the daughter of Samuel and Sallie (Morehouse) Van Doran. Although she had been twice married before, she had no children. Her parents were natives of New Jersey, but in 1836 came to Kalamazoo County, Mich., and settled on a farm where they brought up their family

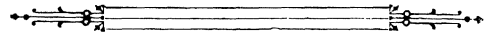
of eight children. Three are now living. Mr. Van Doran who had been a soldier in the War of 1812, died in 1850. His wife survived him eight years. Mrs. Hosford's natal day was September 11, 1837. She received a district school education in Kalamazoo County.

When the subject of this sketch left his farm in Easton Township, just before the war, he removed to Ionia. He offered himself as a volunteer in the army but on account of imperfect health his offer was declined. About this time he decided to visit the Far West, and took the trip to California by water, remaining there four months. He was much interested in the fruit culture which he saw in that region, and returning home decided to devote his efforts and study in the direction of that branch of agriculture. Buying twenty-three acres of raw land he cleared it off. Later he added to this which is now his home farm, until he has sixty acres. Fourteen of these are in orchards, twelve in grapes, and later he put five acres into the new grapes which are his specialty and for which his place is so noted.

He has originated the two seedlings mentioned in the opening paragraph of our sketch. Of these a well-known pomologist says: "This white grape seems one of the best yet originated in America. The black grape is superior to the famous Concord. In its bunch and berry it is of the largest size. The white grape is exceedingly close in the bunch. If these two grapes retain their hardiness, health, vigor and excellence when disseminated, we may look to Michigan as having produced two new grapes which will add greatly to her reputation." Mr. Hosford has some years raised as high as forty tons of grapes. He has manufactured wine for himself, at one time making nineteen hundred gallons.

With his fruit farming he also carries on other branches of agriculture, having nearly fifty acres of land under a very high state of cultivation. His residence built twelve years ago cost \$2,000, and his fine barn \$1,400. He was a charter member of the Christian Church at Ionia over thirty years ago, where he and his wife still worship, and where he has always been active in church matters. For many years he was known as the leader in music,

but he now gives over that branch of work into younger hands, but still retains his interest in the Sunday-school, where he has from the first organization of the church been a faithful and useful teacher. He is well informed in regard to public matters and keeps the run of politics and the labor question, voting the Republican ticket and being a member of the Patrons of Industry. He was one of the early school teachers in this part of the State and has been Deputy Clerk of Berlin Township, and one of the School Inspectors. He is strongly interested in the temperance question and has always been a very liberal supporter of churches.



ALLEN MACOMBER, a wealthy man of Lake View, was born in Perry, Wyoming County, N. Y., April 17, 1834. He is a son of George and Lucinda (Barnes) Macomber, natives of New York State. They came to Michigan in 1849 and settled in Macomb County, near Mt. Clemens, where they lived several years, and then removed to Greenville, Montcalm County, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The father of our subject was a day laborer in New York, and had but little more than enough money to bring him to Michigan, and yet he died a wealthy man. He was a farmer and speculator, and in every respect a self-made man. In politics he belonged to the Whig party, and eventually became a Republican. He had only two children, our subject and his sister, Georgia A., who is now the wife of William Cottrell, of Mt. Clemens.

The subject of this sketch was reared in New York until about fifteen years of age. His early education was limited. He remained with his father until about twenty-eight years of age, and then engaged in the lumber business in the pineries of Montcalm County. This business he has continued to carry on. He located permanently in Lake View in about 1860, and started the first saw-mill at that place which he still owns and operates, and into which he introduced shingle machinery. The firm is now Macomber & Bale, under which firm name also is carried on a flourishing mercan-

tile business in Lake View. Mr. Macomber is the wealthiest man in that portion of the county, and one of the wealthiest in the county. He owns large tracts of farm and timber lands, is worth probably \$75,000, and has the finest residence in Lake View. He is a Republican in his convictions, but never dabbles in politics. He has been, however, a member of the village council ever since it was organized, and has done much toward the improvement and upbuilding of the village, and was one of the prime movers in its establishment. He is a Knight Templar and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mrs. Macomber, who was Miss Esther Swarthout, of Lake View, was born in Pennsylvania, and is a member of one of the pioneer families of Montcalm County. She became the wife of our subject in 1866. Only two of their five children are now living, namely, Nora and Georgia, who are both still living at home.



ROBERT BAERD. The name of this young gentleman and the work he is doing are not unknown in Ionia or in the remotest part of Ionia County. He is President and one of the editors of the *Ionia Standard*, a daily and weekly journal published by the Standard Publishing Company, by means of which a large number of families derive intelligence regarding the news of the day. The sheet is neatly printed and well edited, its columns filled with clean and wholesome literature, making it a suitable paper for the family circle and business readers. A close observation of men and things is shown in the local columns, and in the editorials, which forcibly express the opinions of those who have the paper in charge. Its political influence is thrown on the side of Democracy.

Mr. Baerd was born in Terre Haute, Ind., April 27, 1857, and is a son of John Adam and Catherine (Klein) Baerd. His parents were born in Zweibrucken, Germany, whence they came to America about 1848. They first established themselves in Indianapolis, but subsequently went to Terre

Haute and there the mother died in May, 1871. The father is a shoemaker. To him and his wife six children were born, Robert being the eldest. The others who are now living are Henry, conductor on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and making his home in Dubois County, Ind., and Mrs. Carrie Zumstein, whose home is in Evansville.

When but twelve years old Robert Baerd entered the office of the *Terre Haute Express*, and worked there some seven years. He then worked as a journeyman printer in Grand Rapids, this State until he was twenty-four years old, when with Albert B. Tozer, he began the publication of a society paper called the *Saturday Review*. After two years he abandoned the *Review*, and in partnership with Frank M. Carroll published the *Agricultural World* somewhat more than a year. In 1881 he came to Ionia, and until June, 1883, he was engaged with the Sentinel Printing Company, and he then purchased the *Standard*.

At the head of the household affairs in the home of Mr. Baerd, is the lady who became his wife May 17, 1883. She is an educated, refined woman who was known in her maidenhood as Miss Effie M. Hutchins. The husband and wife are gladdened by the presence in their home of a daughter Louise. Mr. Baerd was City Clerk in 1888-89, and is now serving as Treasurer. He belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge, of which he is Noble Grand, and he has passed all the Chairs in the Knights of Pythias lodge, of which he is a charter member. In politics he is a sound Democrat. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, and has good standing as such.



PETER WHITMORE. This enterprising and prosperous farmer who resides on section 3, Ronald Township, Ionia County, is a grandson of Peter Whitmore, who was born in the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania. He was one of the five children noted in history, who were captured by the Indians at the time of the Wyoming massacre. His parents and all of their children except these five were massacred, twelve of this fam-

ily dying by the tomahawk. He spent five years with the Indians before he was finally restored to the whites at Albany. He had learned much of the ways and speech of the Indians, and could talk their language well. Injuries which he received while in the hands of the savages, so weakened him as to finally cause his death at the age of fifty years.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Mohawk Township, Montgomery County, N. Y., February 22, 1833. His father, John, was also a native of New York, born in Fulton County in 1802. He followed farming as his occupation. His wife who bore the maiden name of Mary Wirt, was born in Fulton County, N. Y., in 1803. Her father Michel Wirt was of German descent, and spoke the German tongue. His daughter spoke German also. She was married to Mr. Whitmore in Fulton County, N. Y., in 1826. After their marriage they settled in the town of Mohawk, where they remained until the father of Mr. Whitmore died in 1868. The mother still survives and resides with this branch of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore are the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters, namely: Hannah, deceased; Margaret, Mrs. J. W. Martin; Peter; Eliza, deceased; John, who resides on the homestead; and George. Our subject went to the same district schoolhouse until he was prepared to teach when he taught his first school under the same roof. Later he attended the Johnstown Academy and was graduated there. He learned the wagon-maker's trade and ran a business of this kind for two years at Fonda. Thence he went to Long Island, and took charge of a farm for Mr. Hoople for seven years.

The young man was now taken with the Western fever, and in 1870 came to Michigan and bought a farm near Ionia. He returned East after about six months to Long Island and was married in 1870 to Mary A. Hoople, a native of Canada. She was the mother of one child, and died in 1878. Her daughter resides at home with her father. Mr. Whitmore married again in 1881. His second wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah E. Mason, was a native of England, and came to this country when she was ten years old. To this couple three children have

been given—John, George and Jesse. The family removed onto the farm where they now reside in the year 1880. They have eighty acres of well-improved land there, forty acres on section 13, and ninety acres in Manistee County. Mr. Whitmore is a Republican in politics, and is in all respects a public-spirited man.



THOMAS WELCH resides on a fine farm on section 9, North Plains Township, Ionia County. He was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, December 22, 1828. His parents, Patrick and Mary (Corcon) Welch, were born, married and died in that county. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom our subject is the youngest. He received his early education in Ireland and started out for himself at the age of fourteen working on a farm by the month.

Mr. Welch crossed the water in 1848, landing at Quebec, Canada, and after a two months stay there went to Ontario County, N. Y. For two or three years he worked on the same farm, but he had the Western fever and coming to Michigan located on section 12, North Plains Township, Ionia County, and set about improving the place. Here and on the spot where he now resides he remained forty years. It was all woods and he has put all the improvements upon it. He had in the meanwhile been back to New York and on August 12, 1851, he was united in marriage to Mary Hogan, a native of County Tyrone, born there in 1830.

To this home have come seven children, five girls and two boys, namely: Mary, Sarah (deceased), Patrick, Thomas, Margaret, Julia and Catherine. Mr. Welch has one hundred and sixty acres of land on the home farm, and eighty acres on section 16, all the improvements having been placed on both farms by the subject. These first-class farms are well-stocked. He has ninety head of sheep and seven horses. When he first set foot in Ionia County he had \$150. His handsome residence cost him \$1,600, not counting his own work and the hauling of the lumber. It is a commodi-



Yours truly
W. P. Gamber M.D.

ous two-story farm house. His barn is 40x60 feet. The horse barn is 32x42 feet and the cow stable 18x28 feet in dimensions. Other sheds and out-buildings are proportionately capacious and convenient. A tool house 30x60 feet shelters his machinery in the winter when not in use. He is a staunch Democrat and the family are all members of the Catholic Church.



WILLIAM P. GAMBER, M. D., is undoubtedly the leading physician in Stanton, Montcalm County, a position to which he attained, as it might be said, at a bound. He has been located here but a few years, but by reason of his excellent judgment, profound sympathy and habit of constant study, he has gained confidence rapidly and won a large following, both in the town and the adjacent country. His professional studies were carried on under favorable auspices, and in schools that rank with the best in the land, and since his graduation he has devoted considerable time to hospital visitation and post-graduate studies.

Dr. Gamber was born in Fayette, Fulton County, Ohio, December 27, 1854, and is the son of George and Caroline (Bachman) Gamber, who were natives of New York. The father came to the Buckeye State many years ago and still lives there on a farm. He has held the various local offices and creditably discharged the duties that pertain thereto. The son obtained a High School education and then began teaching—a work which he carried on several years ere beginning the study of medicine. He fixed in his own mind the knowledge he had acquired in school and added to it much that was brought up in connection with his work as the century grew older.

The reading of medicine was begun under E. H. Rorick, M. D., in Fayette, and Mr. Gamber afterward attended lectures in the Medical College at Detroit and then went to the Western Reserve College in Ohio, from which he was graduated March 4, 1881, taking the honors of his class. His knowledge was not only deep, but varied. Dr.

Gamber began his professional work in McBride, this State, and in a very short time had a lucrative patronage. While in that town he found time to take part in the local affairs and served as President and Clerk of the village. In June, 1888, he came to Stanton and at once took the lead in professional circles here. He has a profound knowledge of the eye and ear and is becoming a recognized authority on those organs and their treatment.

At the bride's home in McBride, May 10, 1883, Dr. Gamber was united in marriage with Miss Addie I. Rood, eldest daughter of Alexander C. and Mary E. Rood. The bride was born at Coral, McHenry County, Ill., November 9, 1866, and accompanied her parents to McBride when she was seven years old. During the winter of 1877-78 she was converted under the preaching of the Rev. C. C. Miller, now of Pontiac, and in March following was baptized and received into the Baptist Church at Stanton. A few years later the Baptist Church of McBride was organized and she became one of its constituent members, retaining her connection until 1888, when she was again received into the mother church at Stanton. From the beginning of her Christian life she was an active worker in church and Sunday-school and when she was called from earth she went peacefully into the valley of the shadow, through which her Saviour had passed before her. Her death occurred April 30, 1890, after a brief illness from a congestive chill. Her funeral was attended by a large number of friends and acquaintances, so that the church was overflowing and many were unable to enter its doors. The services were conducted by the Rev. C. C. Miller, who had been the means of her conversion and by whom she had been married, and in the sad rites he was assisted by the Rev. F. H. Young, pastor of her church, Rev. Charles Nease, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Mr. Lobb, from the Baptist Church, at McBride.

Mrs. Gamber was a working member of the Good Templars order and was Secretary of the Ladies' Library Association of Stanton at the time of her death. The directors of the latter, at the monthly meeting following her demise, appointed

a committee to draft resolutions expressive of their feeling, and no better memorial of the earnest, childlike, Christian woman can be given than in words they used: "We have found her prompt in every duty, gentle and loving in all her ways, ever ready to sympathize with the unfortunate, and clothing with an abounding charity the faults of others. We recognize in the quiet, earnest, sincere Christian life an example worthy of imitation by all. We cannot understand the mysterious Providence that cut short so sweet a life, but we humbly recognize that

'God hath his mysteries of grace,
Ways that we cannot tell,
And he hides them deep
Like the silent sleep
Of her he loved so well.'"

The library of Dr. Gamber contains the best writings, both literary and professional, and all his leisure hours are passed in their perusal. He is a registered pharmacist of the State of Michigan, having received his diploma from the State Board of Pharmacy in March, 1887. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Maccabees. His religious home is in the Baptist Church and he is an active member of the Sunday-school connected therewith.

A lithographic portrait of Dr. Gamber is presented in connection with this brief biographical review.



OLASCOE M. BENEDICT. Ionia is the home of no more determined man than Mr. Benedict, who having carefully weighed the pros and cons of a matter, lets nothing stand in the way of success in whatever he undertakes to accomplish. He is not easily discouraged, and his hopefulness arises not from accident or rashness, but from his familiarity with that which is before him and his settled conviction that certain things can be done. He is a traveling salesman, now representing W. P. Roome & Co., importers of teas in New York.

Mr. Benedict is of English descent, but both the paternal and maternal ancestors for several generations have lived in America. His parents, Ransom

S. and Eliza J. (Bell) Benedict, were born in the Green Mountain State, and the father was a farmer most of his life. For eight years he was Postmaster at Bedford, Ohio, which was the birthplace of our subject, his natal day having been June 21, 1845. Olascoe Benedict is the only surviving member of the parental family, which numbered six children. The mother died when he was but nine years old, February 28, 1856, and the father passed away February 25, 1867.

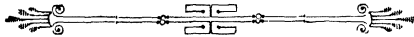
Mr. Benedict of this notice was educated in the public school of his native village, which afforded a good opportunity for all who desired to secure practical educations. At the age of seventeen years he entered the employ of W. L. Smith & Co., in Flint, Mich., and remained eight years, after which he was salesman for A. R. & W. F. Linn thirteen years. This was followed by two years in business for himself, and this in turn by three years in the service of Sprague, Warner & Co., Chicago. His next move was to go to New York and secure the position he now holds.

In 1867 Mr. Benedict had the Christmas present of a wife, formerly Miss Hattie L. Childs. She lived only a few years to share his fortunes, dying February 25, 1870, but a few days after the birth of a daughter, who bears the mother's name and is now engaged in teaching. After three years of widowhood Mr. Benedict was united with Miss Sarah J. Yates, their wedding ceremony being performed June 12, 1873. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children—Thane, born in Detroit, August 18, 1877; Greta in Ionia, October 21, 1879; and Linn in Ionia, August 7, 1881.

Mr. Benedict is a Prohibitionist in politics and was the candidate of his party for member of the Legislature in 1888. He belongs to the Commercial Travelers Association. He united with the Church of Christ in 1860, under the ministrations of J. H. Jones, and has been devoted to church and Sunday-school work. He held the office of Church Treasurer five years, and his excellent record as Sunday-school Superintendent extends over a period of twelve years. None are truer to their friends than he, none more urbane in manners, and none are held in higher esteem.

Mr. Benedict has a large and carefully selected

library, excelled by few in the county, and he aims to keep himself fairly posted in the literature of the day. As a writer he has gained quite a reputation, not only as a frequent correspondent to the home papers under *noms de plume*, but as a contributor to such religious journals as the *Christian Standard* of Cincinnati, Ohio, the *Octographic Review* of Richwood, Ohio, and the *Disciple* of Grand Rapids, Mich. He is in frequent demand at Sunday-school and district conventions of his denomination, and his papers on such occasions show thought, comprehension and ease of expression.



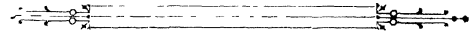
ROBERT E. MACKAY, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of Brant County, Ontario, Canada, and was born November 3, 1834. He is the son of John and Margaret (Edmondson) Mackay. His father was a Scotchman, and from the Highlands, and his mother from the Scottish Lowlands. They emigrated to Ontario, Canada, when young and there made their home. Our subject was the only son of his father, and was reared to manhood in his native county. From early boyhood he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He received a limited education in the common schools of Canada, and ever aimed to make up for early deficiencies by reading and self-culture.

The marriage of our subject with Sarah M. Thomas, took place in Canada, December 12, 1855. She is a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Vincent) Thomas, and was born in Brant County, Ontario, February 29, 1832. Her father was born in Vermont, and her mother in New York State. Her paternal ancestors were Welsh, and her father was in the American army in the War of 1812. He afterward received from the United States Government one hundred and sixty acres of land as a recognition of his services in the army. Three only of his eleven children are now living, namely: **Abram** living in Ontario; **Louisa**, wife of John Alloway, residing in Keene Township; and the wife of our subject.

In the fall of 1861, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, after

several years' residence together in Ontario, came to Michigan and settled on section 26, Keene Township, this county. They have built up the farm and made it what it is to day, and Mr. Mackay has done an immense amount of work upon this land, clearing, chopping and logging. Their first Michigan home was in a board shanty. Here they lived for six months until they were enabled to build their present residence. Four children have blest their home: George T.; Ann (Mrs. Albert J. Ellison), of Keene Township; Sarah N. (Mrs. Frank M. Abbott), of the same township; and Eddie A., a telegraph operator. One hundred broad and productive acres form the home farm which is operated by Mr. Mackay himself. He is a Republican in politics, and wide-awake to all matters of local interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Mackay are honored and esteemed members of society, and their hospitality is well-known in the community. He is a judicious, conservative and successful agriculturist, and deservedly commands the confidence of the business community.



JAMES B. DRAKE. One of the most prominent citizens of Easton Township is the gentleman above named, who resides on section 18, and cultivates a pleasant expanse of sixty acres of land. He is identified in various ways with the best interests of Ionia County, is at present bearing a part in its civic affairs, and is quite widely known and universally esteemed. His farm is one on which every necessary building has been erected and such arrangements made for sowing and reaping as show that the owner possesses progressive ideas and a worthy ambition.

Mr. Drake is the only son of Philemon and Caroline (Miller) Drake, and was born in Wayne County, N. Y., May 4, 1844. He grew to manhood on his father's farm and obtained his education in the common schools. When but eighteen years old, in August, 1862, he entered the Union army, being enrolled in Company D, One Hundred and Thirty-Eighth New York Infantry. After a short

time the command was merged into the Ninth New York Heavy Artillery under command of Col. W. H. Seward, Jr., son of the renowned Secretary Seward. Young Drake took part in the siege of Petersburg, the battle of Cold Harbor, and numerous skirmishes of greater or less importance, together with the usual round of camp duties. While in the army he contracted a chronic infirmity from which he still suffers, and on account of which he is in receipt of a pension of \$6 per month. His war record is that of an earnest, enthusiastic patriot, valorous in action, cheerful under privation and ready in obedience.

When discharged from the army Mr. Drake returned to his native State, whence he came to Michigan about 1878. Deciding upon Ionia County as the scene of his future operations he made a home in Otisco Township, but removed to his present location in the spring of 1885. His property here has accrued from his industrious and arduous labors and is a standing monument to his perseverance and integrity.

The wife who shares the home of Mr. Drake gave him her hand in New York on the 17th of August, 1869. She bore the maiden name of Mary C. Drake and is a daughter of John and Armeda Drake, who are now living in Shiawassee County, this State. The union has been blest by the birth of three children, who are named Carrie L., Nellie W., and Gertie. They have been given the best advantages their parents could compass and the oldest is now using her talents as a school teacher. They form an interesting group, whose society is enjoyed and who are important factors in the life of the neighborhood.

The highest office within the gift of the citizens of Easton Township is that in which Mr. Drake is now serving his third term. The fact of his successive re-elections proves that as Supervisor he give satisfaction to his constituency regardless of party affiliations. His own vote is generally cast with the Democrats and on the party ticket he was a candidate for County Treasurer in the fall of 1890 but was defeated by Charles Brown, Republican. Mr. Drake is identified with the Grand Army Post of Ionia, and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In all business transactions

he is honorable and just, and he therefore enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has dealings and they likewise recognize his capacity for affairs. He and his wife are hospitable, abound with neighborly kindness, and have the true, public spirit.



DUNCAN ROBERTSON. The traveler in Ionia County cannot fail to be struck with admiration for many of the farm homes which lie within its boundaries. One of those which add to the attractiveness of Ionia Township is owned and occupied by Squire Robertson. The estate consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land that has been placed under thorough cultivation and is productive of mixed crops of high grade and large quantity. The stock that grazes in the pastures is of the best, and evidences of good judgment are everywhere to be seen. Among the substantial improvements is a fine two-story brick residence that was built in 1883, at a cost of \$3,000, and a barn 34x90 feet, that was completed in 1889. He also has two barns on another part of his farm.

The father of our subject was William Robertson, who was born in Perthshire, Scotland, late in the eighteenth century. He was a stonemason by trade but farmed during most of his life. He had ten brothers, several of whom served in the British army and were sent to America during the War of 1812. The mother of Squire Robertson bore the maiden name of Barbara Grant and was born in Dundee, Scotland, about 1796. She was a daughter of John Grant, a miller and millwright of Dundee, and a man of prominence in that vicinity. The parents of our subject made their home in Invernesshire, among the Highlands of their native land, and there the mother died in 1854. Some two years later the father came to America with two daughters, coming directly to this State to make his home with his son Duncan, who was then a resident of Orleans Township, Ionia County. There he breathed his last in 1860.

The parental family comprised eight children who grew to maturity, those now living being David, a resident of Lake County; Eliza, wife of Henry Dyer, of Osceola County; Ann, who lives in Easton Township, Ionia County; Duncan, subject of this sketch; Jane, widow of Angus McDonald, who resides in Glasgow, Scotland; Barbara, wife of S. Loomis, whose home is in Ronald Township, Ionia County; and Susan, wife of John Dick, whose home is in Easton Township. The parents belonged to the Presbyterian Church and the father held the office of Elder.

Squire Robertson was born June 24, 1827, amid the rugged beauty of Invernesshire, Scotland, and grew to manhood there. He received a normal course of training at Edinburg and fitted himself for teaching, a profession in which he engaged at the age of eighteen and followed seven years. He remained in his native land during that period and in 1852 embarked for the New World and established himself in North Oxford, Canada. There he was engaged in brick making four years, after which he crossed the border into the United States and settled at Kiddville, Ionia County. During the first winter of his residence there he was engaged in the lumber business for James M. Kidd, but he then took up farm work in Orleans Township, and for a year operated a farm on shares. He next bought a tract of wild land in that township and began clearing it, building a log house in which to live. That was his home until he entered the Union army in December, 1863.

Mr. Robertson was mustered into the service January 2, 1864, as a private in Company K, First Michigan Engineers. The boys were sent to Chattanooga, Tenn., where they were put to work building hospitals and a stone magazine, cutting and sawing logs, etc. They next went to Chickamauga to build a stockade, where Mr. Robertson was severely crushed under a huge log and entirely disabled. He was kept with the regiment until it reached Atlanta and then sent to the hospital at Jeffersonville, Ind., later coming home on furlough in December, 1864. When his leave expired he returned to the hospital and thence rejoined the regiment at Goldsboro, N. C., after which he went on with his comrades to Raleigh, was present at the

surrender of Gen. Johnston to Gen. Sherman, and took part in the Grand Review at Washington. He then went to Louisville, whence by special order he was sent to his own State and discharged at Detroit in July, 1865.

Coming back to Ionia County Mr. Robertson settled upon section 8, Ionia Township, obtaining a tract of land upon which a few poor improvements stood, but which was uncultivated and not even cleared. He went industriously to work to remove the timber and place the land under cultivation, and during the years that have passed he has made of it a splendid property. The land is still under his personal oversight and he manifests as much enterprise in his affairs as when he first began to build up his home here. He would be unworthy the name of Scotchman were he to abandon his thrifty habits and prudent ways, and equally unworthy the name were he not kind-hearted and ready to assist those who are in need.

March 22, 1866, Squire Robertson was married to Mrs. Sarah Kerton, *nee* Bowden. Her parents were Joseph and Mary (Waldron) Bowden, natives of Devonshire, England, the one born in 1795 and the other in 1797. Mr. Bowden died in 1850, but his widow lived to a good old age, passing away in 1883. They were the parents of six children, four of whom are still living, all in Devonshire except Mrs. Robertson. This lady was born February 8, 1832, and lived in Devonshire until she was twenty years of age. She then came to America with her first husband, William Kerton, and their home was made at Jamestown, N. Y. After a few months' sojourn they settled upon a farm in Warren County, Pa., remaining there four years and then coming to Ionia County. After living in Orleans Township for some time they took possession of the farm now under the control of our subject, and here Mr. Kerton died in 1864. Having no children of their own Mr. and Mrs. Kerton reared a girl named Ada Jane Kidd, and since her second marriage Mrs. Robertson has had the care of Maude E. Harnden, who still makes her home with her foster parents. By a former marriage Mr. Robertson had three children, two of whom are now living—William D. and Henry J. The former married Martha Johns and has three children; his home is in Ronald

Township. The second son married Mary Wurster, but has no family; he lives upon his father's farm.

The title by which Mr. Robertson is familiarly known has been earned by fourteen years work as Justice of the Peace. He has been School Director and Moderator at different times, and in 1890 was United States Census Enumerator. He is interested in the social orders and besides being a member of a Grand Army Post at Ionia, he belongs to the Patrons of Industry and a Masonic Blue Lodge. In politics he has taken an active interest, frequently serving as a delegate to conventions and always working for the success of the Republican party of which he is an uncompromising supporter. He is a strictly temperance man in his habits, is thoroughly honorable in business transactions, is the soul of good nature and has quiet and pleasing ways. He and his wife belong to the Christian Church at Ionia and he is an Elder there. He takes a part in Sunday-school work, teaching a class in the local Sunday-school when it was in session, and was formerly its Superintendent. It would be difficult to find a couple more thoroughly deserving of the esteem of their acquaintances than Mr. and Mrs. Robertson or one having a larger circle of sincere friends.



BERRY J. LOWREY is probably as well known as any man residing in Howard City, Montcalm County, and his name is recognized beyond the limits of the county. He is proprietor and publisher of the Howard City *Record*, a paper that has a good circulation and is a well-edited sheet, its columns supplied with carefully selected news and bright utterances on matters of local and general interest. In connection with them is a job office, equipped with modern conveniences for turning out fine work and enjoying a wide reputation for the excellence of its products.

The birthplace of Mr. Lowrey was Auburn, Ind., and his natal day February 26, 1859. His parents were William A. and Elizabeth E. (Stahl) Lowrey,

and the other members of the parental family are Mrs. L. W. Spach, now living in Kansas City, Mo.; Mrs. D. Brubaker, of the same place; and George, who is engaged in levee work in Arkansas and Mississippi. The father was a contractor and builder, principally engaged in bridge building, and while thus employed at Delphi, Ind., met his death by drowning in October, 1873. The widowed mother survived until 1881. The Lowreys are of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

After studying in the public school until he had obtained a practical knowledge of the ordinary branches of an English education, young Lowrey entered the printing office of the DeKalb (Ind.) *Republican* in 1875, and there learned the "art preservative of all arts." In 1881 he went to Elkhart and took the foremanship of a daily paper, but some months later abandoned the situation and went to Toledo, Ohio. In 1883 he returned to his native place and formed a partnership with C. P. Houser, and acted as manager and editor of their publication a year, after which he came to Charlotte, Mich. There he became foreman of the news and job departments of the *Republican*, and there he remained until 1885, when he removed to Howard City. He purchased the *Record* plant and set about making of that journal a more potent factor in molding the opinions of the people than it has ever been.

The energy that characterizes every successful editor, especially of a country paper, is in most instances felt in the affairs of the town in which he dwells, and this is true in a large degree in the case of Mr. Lowrey. He has been active in promoting the growth of Howard City by advocating public improvements, not only in the columns of the *Record*, but wherever his voice could be used to good effect. He was one of the chief instruments in securing the very excellent system of waterworks now in operation in Howard City, urging the movement when a member of the Council, and materially aided by his influence the calling of a special election through which the matter was carried to a successful issue. He was appointed Postmaster in July, 1889. Politically he is an ardent Republican, and socially a member of the Masonic fraternity. He is now Secretary of

the Michigan State Press Association and President of the local branch of the National Loan & Investment Company, of Detroit.

The pleasant home of Mr. Lowrey is kept in order and made attractive by the prudence and taste of Mrs. Lowrey, who was formerly Miss Amanda Ensley. She is a daughter of Fred Ensley and was united in marriage to Mr. Lowrey October 25, 1883, at her home in Waterloo, Ind. The home is brightened by the presence of a charming little daughter named Bessie.



JOHAN M. BROWN. This venerable man has long been numbered among the farmers of Ionia County and has done much hard work here, including the clearing of large tracts of land and the cultivation of an extended acreage. His home is on section 7, Otisco Township, and the farm he now owns there consists of one hundred and sixty-five acres. He has been the owner of much more land, having given his children amounts aggregating a value of some \$4,000. He has been a breeder of Berkshire swine, but the chief stock he now keeps is pure-bred Merino sheep, eligible to registration.

The grandfather of our subject was John Brown, a native of Massachusetts and an early settler in New York, where he made his home during the remainder of his life. He held the rank of Captain in the Revolutionary forces. His son, Timothy, father of our subject, was born in Leyden, Mass., and was twelve years old when the family removed to New York. He began his personal work as a farmer when twenty-two years old and continued it until his death, which occurred in 1853. He was married in New York to Deborah Morse, a native of Hartford, Conn., and to them came several children, one of whom was born July 11, 1816, in Cortland County and christened John M.

Until he was of age John M. Brown remained with his father and he then worked at various occupations in his native State until 1844. Being led to believe that the newer regions near the Great Lakes would afford him a better opportunity to

advance he came to Michigan and until 1848 resided in Oakland County. He then removed to Ionia County and his first purchase of property was eighty acres in Otisco Township. To this he has added at various times, enabling him to start his children in life as before noted. His comfortable circumstances are creditable to the energy and persistence he has manifested during the decades that have passed since he came hither.

The wife of Mr. Brown bore the maiden name of Marilda Skidmore and is a daughter of John and Sally (Bishop) Skidmore, who were natives of Guilford, Conn., and of New York respectively. The grandfather of Mrs. Brown, Joel Bishop, was related to John Bishop, who emigrated from England in 1639. Mrs. Brown was well reared and since her marriage, March 5, 1848, she has been devoted to the comfort of her husband and the children with whom they are blessed. They have two sons and a daughter living, and one son and daughter deceased. The latter are Frances E. and Mark, and the survivors, Franklin E., Mark H. and Mary E.

When he first began to study national questions Mr. Brown decided that slavery was wrong and his first Presidential ballot was cast for the Abolition candidate, James G. Birney. He voted for Lincoln and Grant, but since 1872 his ballot has been a Democratic one.



RANSOM STANBRO. We are writing of a man who is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Ionia County. Mr. Stanbro has served his country conscientiously in the Civil War, and also by his sterling qualities of citizenship. By his industry and perseverance he has accumulated considerable property and his name is well known and prominent among the citizens. Mr. Stanbro resides on section 14, Easton Township, and is a native of Wayne County, Mich., his natal day being September 13, 1831. He is a son of Josiah and Ruth Stanbro, who are natives of New York. His paternal ancestors were of English descent, his great-grandfather being a

soldier in the Revolutionary War. The father of our subject while yet in New York, was made a captain in a militia company.

The parents of our subject were early pioneers of Michigan, and when he was two years old they came to Oakland County, and were among the first settlers. His father died in this county, and his mother passed away in Wayne County, Mich. Four children were born to these parents, but two only survive: Ransom and Helen F., wife of Ezra North, of Easton Township. The boyhood days of our subject were spent in Oakland, this State, and here he was reared amid scenes subject to the unsettled state of the country and did much pioneer work. He acquired a fair education offered him by the means of perusing good books; and being a person of keen observation, he informed himself comparatively well on the general topics of the day. Our subject was united in wedlock November 30, 1857, with Vina E. Porter then residing in Oakland County, Mich., who was born July 7, 1830. She is a daughter of Willard and Betsey (Arthur) Porter, who are natives of New York, and came to Oakland County, Mich., among the first settlers. Some of the ancestors of Mrs. Stanbro were connected with the Revolutionary War. The union of her parents was blessed with three children: Asa, a resident of Northville, Mich.; Juliette, wife of Henry Watkins, living in this county; and Mrs. Stanbro.

The subject of this sketch enlisted in Company E., First Michigan Engineer Corps, and was attached to the Army of the Cumberland. His duties were principally to build corduroy and other bridges, and the running of sawmills. He was discharged in October, 1865, and returned to Ionia County, where he has since remained. While in the service of his country he participated in the Grand Review at Washington. He settled on his farm two years previous to his enlistment, and purchased eighty acres of land at \$4.50 an acre, and built a rude house in which he lived until 1884, when he erected his present and more commodious residence.

Mr. Stanbro and his estimable wife have endured the usual hardships of the life of a pioneer. They first settled in a timbered country where there were

no roads, and the first thing which was accomplished upon this settlement was the laying out of roads back and forth to the farm. Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are well respected in society. Mr. Stanbro is a Republican, and is a pensioner for his army service. Our subject has been ably assisted in his efforts to acquire a home by his wife, and they now own a fine farm of eighty acres of land. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post at Ionia.



JOHAN R. MUSSELMAN. Among the successful and prosperous agriculturists of Ionia County we take pleasure in introducing to our readers the worthy subject of our sketch, the efficient Deputy Sheriff of Ionia county, who resides on section 5, Eaton Township. He is a native of Ionia County, where he was born April 7, 1853, and a son of William and Sarah (Turner) Musselman. His father was born in Pennsylvania and his mother was a native of England. The father, William Musselman, emigrated to Ionia County in 1837, and purchased two hundred and fourteen acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. He had to cut a road for three miles into the woods to reach his new home. Here he erected a log cabin and made his home until death called him away, September 17, 1888. He had been twice married and of his children two survive—James A. and John R. His first wife lived for some years after they came to Ionia County. His second wife, Elizabeth Clay, died in March, 1878. He was a member of the Congregational Church and was a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, a Republican in his politics, and in many ways a successful and prominent man. In his death Easton Township experienced a real loss.

John R. Musselman was reared to manhood in this county. Here he assisted his father in early pioneer labors on the farm. The family was quite popular with the Indians who used to stop over night with them in friendly fashion. He made the



W. P. Hopkins.

best of his scanty opportunities of education and has always improved himself in every way through life, so that he is an intelligent and well read man.

The marriage of our subject November 30, 1871, united him with Maggie E. Cole, who was born July 7, 1853, in Ontario, Canada. She was a daughter of William and Mary A. (Agon) Cole. Her father being a native of England and her mother of Ireland. When about fifteen years old she came with her parents to Ionia County and settled on section 4, Easton Township. Later the family removed to Otisco Township, where her mother died in September, 1888 and where her father now resides. To her parents were born five children three of whom are living, namely: Mrs. Musselman; Jennie, Mrs. William Beach; and Thomas.

Three interesting children brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Musselman—Sarah, born October 12, 1872; Emory W., February 15, 1878; and Vernice M. December 19, 1887. A fine farm of two hundred and fourteen acres surrounds the family residence. He is a Republican in politics and is efficiently serving his third year as Deputy Sheriff of the county.

Mr. Musselman and his interesting family are all highly respected members of society. He enjoys the full confidence of a business community and is an earnest promoter of all advanced movements. He is well known for his liberality and public spirit. Mrs. Musselman is an active member of the Free Methodist Church.



NATHANIEL P. HOPKINS. A position of prominence among the landowners of Ionia County, is held by the gentleman above named, who has long been the owner of farm lands in Lyons Township. His home is on section 21, and abounds in comforts such as the abundant means of the owner, and the tastes of the family make feasible. Mr. Hopkins has five hundred acres of land in a body, which is clear of incumbrance, and he has given to three of his children three hun-

dred and thirty and a half acres. His property is not derived from inheritance, but has been accumulated by his own hard work and wise management.

Jonah Hopkins, grandfather of our subject, was born in Rhode Island, and died in New York at the age of fourscore and four years. He took up arms against the mother country, and served in the Colonial army seven years. His son Asabel, father of our subject, was born in Providence County, R. I., sixteen miles from the city of Providence in the year 1795. When the War of 1812 was raging, he went to the field as a drummer boy. When grown to manhood he married his cousin Olive Hopkins, whose father was a soldier in 1812. She was born in Rhode Island the same year as her husband, and their marriage took place in that State in 1815. They made their first home in Wayne County, N. Y., thence went to Cattaraugus County, then to Allegany County, and finally to Ionia County, Mich., in 1845. They located in Lyons Township, and when called hence, in 1863 and 1872 respectively, their mortal remains were deposited side by side in the Lyons cemetery. They had twelve children, and four sons and four daughters lived to adult years.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., July 23, 1826, and is the second son and fourth child in the parental family. He lived in his native State until he was nineteen years old, then came to Michigan with his parents and remained with them ten years longer ere starting out in the world for himself. He had no capital except his natural ability and the knowledge he had acquired during his youth. His first occupation was working by the month for James M. Webster for four months, when he invested his earnings in two yoke of steers. The next spring he plowed ten acres and planted it in corn, and in the fall fattened hogs. He had worked at the cooper's trade, and so made his own barrels and packed his own pork. This he sold and invested the proceeds in cattle, and in this way continued to speculate.

The first land bought by Mr. Hopkins was eighty acres in Portland Township, which he traded for fifty acres near the village of that name. The second tract was sold, and in 1848 seventy-eight acres on section 33, Lyons Township, was bought. The

same year this land was sold, but the next purchase was of forty-eight acres on the same section. This also was sold in a short time, and Mr. Hopkins then went into Ronald Township and bought a quarter-section. He broke the ground on forty acres, sowed wheat and made a mile and three-quarters of rail fence, preparatory to further improvement of the place, but within the year he sold it. The next purchase made was of eighty acres in the same township, and there Mr. Hopkins made his home eight years. During that time he bought eighty acres in North Plains Township, and in 1862 he sold both farms and bought one hundred and twelve acres on section 28, Lyons Township. This was already improved, having previously been the home of Joseph Le Tandre.

In 1863 Mr. Hopkins bought one hundred and thirty acres known as the Aca Bunnell farm, which was partly improved, and two years later purchased sixty-one acres more. During the same year he also bought one hundred and seventy acres which was known as the D. C. Richard farm, thus making up an estate of four hundred and seventy-three acres. Since that time he has continued to buy and sell or trade lands, and while retaining a large acreage, has given enough to his children to start them well in life. The solid financial standing of Mr. Hopkins affords abundant proof of his excellent judgment in making investments.

In his early manhood Mr. Hopkins was married to Miss Hannah Green, daughter of Daniel and Orpha (George) Green, who was born in Wyoming County, N. Y. The wedding ceremony took place at the bride's home December 28, 1852. Of the union there were born five children, two of whom died in infancy. The survivors are Laura A., wife of D. M. Mills; Albert F.; and Alice J., now Mrs. Frank Lindsley, all living in Lyons Township. Mrs. Hopkins died November 25, 1867, and Mr. Hopkins was again married in 1868, his bride being Miss Julia F. Barrus, who was born in New York. Of this union eight children were born, all of whom are deceased excepting two: Dora M., now Mrs. Joseph Plowman; and Rapha Ella. Mr. Hopkins has always voted the Democratic ticket. He is connected with the Odd Fellows lodge in Lyons, and has been a Mason ten years. He finds his re-

ligious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church. As a citizen he has always been peaceable and law-abiding, and as a neighbor he is cordial and friendly.

We invite the reader's attention to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Hopkins presented on another page of this volume.



ZENAS B. KNAPP was born in Androscoggin County, Me., September 7, 1852, the son of W. R. and A. M. (Green) Knapp. They were both natives of Maine. The boy's life until he reached thirteen years of age was spent on a farm. He had few opportunities for education and went to school only six months out of the year. He has risen above these disadvantages of his childhood, has made himself a place in the world and is now one of the honored residents of Sidney Township, Montcalm County.

This youth began his life work in the lumber business at the age of thirteen years, when he went to Williamsport, Pa., and engaged in a lumber mill. Here he advanced step by step until he commanded the highest wages paid in the mill. At the age of twenty-four he came to the State of Michigan and stopping at Big Rapids, engaged in work in the mills and in the woods. Then he went to Lake County and entered the same business.

The first mill which Mr. Knapp owned was at Edmore; it was a shingle mill and for two years he operated it and then sold it and came to Stanton to superintend L. Cory's mills, about three miles northwest of Stanton. After this he went to the Upper Peninsula where he ran a mill for Hood & Gale of Big Rapids. He then came to Stanton, bought a mill and moved it three miles west of town, and has been running it from that time to this.

Mr. Knapp chose as his life partner Frankie M. Charlesworth of Eagle Lake, Blue Earth County, Minn. Their marriage took place December 28, 1880, and they have been blessed by the birth of five children: Arthur I., born December 12, 1881; Willoughby C., September 15, 1883; Ethel E., March 24, 1885; Frankie M., October 27, 1888, and

Zella B. April 9, 1890. All of these children have lived to brighten the home of their parents.

The gentleman of whom we write has two brothers in Michigan, namely: W. R. Knapp at Mecosta, Mecosta County, in the milling business, and Charles H. Knapp, at Remus, in the same county. This brother acts as foreman in our subject's mill there. Mr. Knapp takes an active interest in the cause of education. He is a Democrat by conviction and casts his vote for that party. He owns a well-improved eighty-acre farm, much good stock and one of the best mills in the county. He employs about twenty men all the year round in shingle sawing. He was so unfortunate as to lose by fire a \$5,000 mill about two years ago, but notwithstanding this he is a prosperous man and has a good business.



L. BOWER, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Greenville, Montcalm County, is often called to visit patients twenty to twenty-five miles away, and has in some instances gone even farther from home to relieve distress. His practice is large and remunerative, but his interest in charitable and municipal enterprises prevents him from becoming a man of great wealth. He has a beautiful residence and enjoys every comfort, and has been able to give his sons excellent advantages. The professional reputation of Dr. Bower is not confined to the immediate vicinity of his home but reaches out over a wide territory by reason of his connection with public health as an official.

In Tompkins County, N. Y., in 1839, he of whom we write was born. His parents were Tillman and Martha F. (Denison) Bower, who were likewise natives of the Empire State. The father was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1846. His widow still lives and is now seventy-nine years old. She is making her home with her son, the Doctor. The parental family comprised five children, and the living are Henry M., a farmer near Greenville; Dr. Horace L.; and Dana, a farmer in the vicinity. One of the deceased sons was the

Rev. George Bower, who died in New York in his forty-first year. He was educated in Denison University in Ohio, and Crozen University in Pennsylvania, and was a minister of the Baptist Church from his early manhood. The paternal grandparents of Dr. Bower were George and Betsey Bower, who were born in the Keystone State and were of German descent. They had seven children, one of whom is still living—Mrs. Nathan Wakely of Black Creek, N. Y. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Charles and Sarah (Henderson) Denison, natives of New York, who have four children living, viz: Roxana, Mrs. Martha F. Bower, Mrs. Prudy Bower, and Mrs. Sarah F. Devine. The occupation of both grandfathers was farming.

The early years of Dr. Bower were spent upon the home farm and he did not break loose from his parents until he was of age, although from the age of nineteen until twenty-four he spent the winters in school teaching. After gaining some fundamental instruction he attended the Cortland and Ithaca Academies, where he acquired a liberal education. He began the study of medicine in his native State when twenty-four years old but subsequently read at Clarkston, Oakland County, this State. He entered the Medical College at Albany, N. Y., and after completing the course of lectures he was graduated in due form. He established himself in Greenville, where he has remained, except for a short time, since he entered upon his professional work. Of the physicians remaining in the city who were here when he came in 1865, he is the oldest. For a few years he was in partnership with a former preceptor, Dr. J. Drummond, but most of his work has been carried on alone.

For the past six years Dr. Bower has been Grand Medical Examiner of the Royal Templars of Temperance, a society in which he holds membership. For an equal length of time he has been County Physician and Surgeon, and has also held the responsible position of City Physician. He belongs to the Northern Medical Society and his own experience and observation adds much to the usefulness of that body. Politically he is a Prohibitionist. He and his wife belong to the Baptist Church of which for a number of years he has been Clerk. His marriage to Miss Etta A. Clark, formerly of Detroit,

took place in 1865 and the union has been blessed by the birth of two sons—George C. and Albert J. Mrs. Bower, a daughter of Nelson W. Clark, was the recipient of good advantages in her youth and is educated and refined.



CHAUNCY J. RUMSEY. This cognomen is well known in Ionia County and the region surrounding it, as that of a gentleman who has been crowned by fortune with abundant worldly means. He is one of the strongest capitalists in the county and has stock in various companies and land in several localities, with houses and lots in Muir and other towns. Every wish that reasonable man can have, he is able to gratify and every taste he is able to cultivate. He is a resident of Muir, adjoining which village he has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres with good improvements, where he keeps about twenty-four head of Hambletonian horses. At Jackson he has a herd of about the same number, both being worthy the examination of all lovers of noble steeds. In raising these fine animals Mr. Rumsey has been interested for the past fifteen years.

Our subject is the son of William H. and Elizabeth S. (Marvin) Rumsey; the former was born in Rutland County, Vt., in 1797, and the latter in Genesee County, N. Y., in 1801. The father was a farmer and merchant and for some years kept a hotel. They came to this State in 1856, and settled at Albion, Calhoun County, where they lived in retirement, enjoying the fruits of former labors. Mr. Rumsey died January 24, 1873, and Mrs. Rumsey in 1872. Both were of English descent. They had two sons, but he of whom we write is the only one now living. His brother, William M. was born in 1839 and was a farmer and druggist; he died in Jackson County in 1883.

The birthplace of Chauncy Rumsey was near Batavia, Genesee County, N. Y., and the date of the event February 4, 1844. Until twelve years old he attended school in his native county and afterward studied in Albion (Mich.) College. When eighteen years of age he left home to begin the

battle of life for himself and his first position was at Jackson in the flouring mill of H. A. Haden & Co. He began his work there at \$6 per week and during the last year received \$1,500 for his services. He had worked for the firm from 1860 to 1869 and risen to the position of manager, and also kept the company's books.

In the fall of 1869 Mr. Rumsey came to Muir and securing men and teams went North and cut lumber in the pineries of Montcalm County, whence it was rafted down Fish Creek and Maple River to the mill of Jeremiah Marvin—uncle of Mr. Rumsey—at Muir. After a year spent in working in the interest of that gentleman, Mr. Rumsey bought him out and carried on lumbering for himself until 1873, when he sold out to N. B. Hayes. Two years later he bought a steam mill on the same stream, now known as the J. J. Begole Mill and ran it until 1883, when he sold the machinery and turned his attention to farming. He owned some seven hundred acres of land in Montcalm County, all covered with pine trees, and from that tract he cut timber, clearing the entire tract.

The farm and timber lands of Mr. Rumsey amount to some two thousand acres located in several counties. He was one of the organizers of the Savings Bank established in Ionia in January, 1886, and is a stockholder and director; the same is true of the Electric Light Company, established in that city December 12, 1888. He was also instrumental in organizing the Capital Wagon Works of Ionia and has \$10,000 invested therein and holds the office of President of the corporation. Mr. Rumsey is Trustee of Muir and has been for fifteen years. He is an affable gentleman, interested in the social orders and is a Royal Arch Mason. Politically he is a Democrat.



STEPHEN T. MINARD, the present genial and efficient Supervisor of Easton Township and influential citizen of Ionia County, is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., where he was born January 16, 1837. He is a son of Isaac and Eleanor (Ingraham) Minard. His par-

ents were both natives of New York and his paternal ancestors were French and on the maternal side he is from English stock. Some of his ancestors on both sides were in the Revolutionary War. To his parents were born ten children, six of whom are now living—Stephen T., Robert, John, Daniel, Samuel and Joseph.

In 1855 our subject emigrated with his parents to Dane County, Wis. In 1859 the mother died and the father decided to return to New York State with a part of the family. After their return East he died in Ulster County after the close of the Civil War. The boy, Stephen, received his preliminary education in the district schools of Dutchess County, N. Y., and Dane County, Wis. When about twenty years old he entered Milton Academy in Rock County, Wis., and there took a four years' course in the Normal and Scientific Departments. He taught for some years and was Principal for three successive years of the graded schools at Jefferson, Wis.

Mr. Minard was married May 16, 1861, to Henrietta E., daughter of James M. and Eliza (Williams) Fitch. By this union there were born five children, two of whom are living—Ernest E. and Arden J. Three have been called from earth—Lillian, Ardella and James. In 1867 our subject brought his family to Ionia County and located in Ionia City. For more than two years he was engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements under the firm name of Fitch, Tew & Minard. He then bought the farm where he now resides in Easton Township which comprises eighty acres. When he bought the property there was a log cabin on the place and in this he resided for some time and then built the fine residence which now adorns his farm. The farm was partially cleared when he took it but he has virtually made it what it is. Both he and his good wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and active in all social movements; he serves as Steward and also officiates on the Board of Trustees. He served as Justice of the Peace one term, was Township Clerk for two years and Notary Public for eight years.

Mr. Minard is a staunch Democrat in politics and an active promoter of all movements for the betterment of society. His education has been obtained

by his own energy and pluck and not through the help of the schoolmaster, and he has acquired so large a degree of culture and intelligence as is rarely to be found in a rural home. He and his estimable wife are prominent members of society and noted throughout the community for their warm hospitality. In the spring election of 1891 he was made Supervisor of the township by a handsome majority.



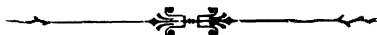
DANIEL T. HOYT. The life of this gentleman affords an example to other citizens of Ionia County, showing what may be accomplished by the persevering industry of one who begins his work in the world under very adverse circumstances. He was left fatherless when but a child and went from place to place wherever he could find opportunity to make a home, until he was able to begin farming, and by rigid economy and continued efforts he managed to save the wherewithal to buy a small tract of land. After various experiences he came to this State and finally took possession of a farm on sections 18 and 19, Ronald Township. There he has a well-improved place consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, where he is successfully carrying on general farming. He has besides a forty-acre tract on section 17.

Mr. Hoyt was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., August 1, 1824, and is the fourth child of Abram and Mary (White) Hoyt, natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. His grandfather, Enoch Hoyt, is supposed to have been a native of England. His maternal grandparents died when his mother was quite young and she was reared by one Daniel Toffee, in Dutchess County. There her marriage took place and soon after she and her husband located in Tompkins County. Mr. Hoyt, father of our subject, died there, leaving his widow with four children and no means for their support, as he had been able to save very little while working at the trade of a tailor. Mrs. Hoyt is still living at the venerable age of ninety-

one year, her home being in Auburn, N. Y. Besides our subject the surviving members of her family are: John, whose home is near San Francisco, Cal.; Mrs. Elizabeth Race, of Auburn, N. Y., and Alfred, a farmer in Rice County, Kan.

Daniel T. Hoyt was left fatherless when six years old and from that time until he reached his majority his days were spent under divers roofs and his time devoted to such labors as were imposed upon him by the families with whom he lived. He attended the district schools whenever opportunity afforded and when he was old enough to do so engaged in farming. Prior to his twenty-fifth year he had saved \$500, which he thought a very good capital. He came to Michigan in 1852 and located in Essex Township, Clinton County, buying land which he improved and operated until February, 1859. He then removed to his present location.

In Scipio, Cayuga County, N. Y., August 28, 1851, Mr. Hoyt was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Sperry, a native of that county who proved her worth as a companion and helpmate during a period of well nigh forty years. She was removed from the scenes of earth September 26, 1887. She left four children—Charles D., Frederick, Mary M. and Percy. The daughter is the wife of John C. Wood. Mr. Hoyt was a second time married, May 1, 1889, wedding Mrs. Elsie Babcock, who was born and reared in Vermont. The first vote cast by our subject was headed with the name of Zachary Taylor. For years he has been a Republican and his party adherence is strong.



CORNELIUS E. DENSMORE. The Densmores belong to an old Scotch family, and possess in a large measure many of the superior qualities and habits of that sturdy and honest northern people. The branch to which our subject belongs can be traced back to Scotland, whence about 1620 the ancestor of the American branch of the family came to this country and settled in New England. Cornelius E. Densmore, who resides on section 30, Easton Township, Ionia

County, still retains much of the fine physical inheritance which has come down to him through generations of sturdy, temperate and industrious progenitors. He was born in Conway County, Mass., August 23, 1834, of Massachusetts parentage.

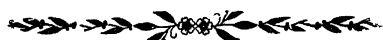
Our subject is the son of Rufus and Louisa (Stebbins) Densmore. His father emigrated to Ionia County, Mich., in 1836, and settled on a farm in Easton Township, which is now owned by W. A. Inman, near where the House of Correction now stands. Here he lived until 1844, when he removed to Essex Township, Clinton County, this State, and made that his final home. He passed from earth in 1847, having lost his wife several years previous. This early pioneer was twice married. Of seven children born to him five survive, namely: Elvira, wife of Ozi B. Sevey, living in Clinton County; Cornelius E.; John E., in Gratiot County; Louisa, Mrs. Wallace Coomer, also in Gratiot County, and Andrew F., in Washington, D. C.

Cornelius was left doubly orphaned at the age of fourteen years, and was bound out to Gardner Chidester, of Ionia Township. After four years residence with him he began to work for himself. He has always supplemented his scant early advantages in the educational line by a course of intelligent reading and careful observation of men and things. His marriage with Adelia M. Smith was celebrated August 23, 1858. This lady was born July 7, 1838, and is a daughter of Sidney L. and Phebe (Scott) Smith, early pioneers of Washtenaw County. The father was a native of Connecticut and the mother was born in Pennsylvania. Five of their seven children are now living: Harvey B., living in Clinton County; Mrs. Densmore; Jacob W., of Clinton County; Emory B., of St. Johns; Priscilla E., Mrs. A. F. Currier, in Clinton County.

Mr. and Mrs. Densmore have been the parents of seven children, six of whom are living—Clarke E., Emory C., Jay R., Albert S., Nellie A., and Willie E. He served bravely in the Union army during the Civil War, enlisting September 20, 1862, in Company M, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, which was made a part of Custer's Brigade. Our subject fought in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsyl-

vania Court House, Cold Harbor, and many engagements of minor importance. He was captured at Trevilian Station, Va., and was confined for a short time in prison at Richmond, whence he was sent to Andersonville. After six months of torture and starvation in that slaughter house he was taken to Milan prison, Ga. After being there about one month he was released on parole and sent from Savannah to the hospital at Annapolis, Md. He remained there for several weeks, receiving the best medical and surgical treatment and returned home on a short furlough expecting to be exchanged and returned to his regiment. But owing to physical incapacity he received an honorable discharge July 30, 1865.

By industry and perseverance Mr. and Mrs. Densmore have acquired eighty-five broad and productive acres, which they have put under excellent cultivation. The Wesleyan Methodist Church is their religious home and here Mr. Densmore has for some time served as a Class-Leader. He is in receipt of a pension from the Government. He is widely known as a public-spirited and enterprising gentleman, and although he is broken down in health by the hardships and privations which he endured within the walls of Andersonville, he has still the endurance and strength necessary to an active life. The posterity of our subject may well point with pride to his honorable record both as a citizen and soldier, and they find in his example their best stimulus to a worthy life.



LOUIS L. HOLMES. Probably no resident of the thriving village of Belding, Ionia County, is doing more to advance its business interests than the gentleman above-named. He is one of its leading dealers, both in general merchandise and clothing, and is the owner of quite valuable property in the town and of farm lands in different parts of the State. His stock of general merchandise is valued at about \$4,500 and his associate in business is Harry J. Connell. Mr. Holmes is associated with his brother in the clothing business and their stock amounts to some

\$6,000. Both establishments are in a flourishing condition and the manner in which they are conducted would do credit to much larger towns. Mr. Holmes is one of four gentlemen that propose to build a block of four stores in the near future.

The father of Louis L. Holmes was christened Frederick and is a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada. When a young man he followed the occupation of farming and is now carrying on that work in Orleans Township, Ionia County. His first settlement in the State was made in 1867, in Otisco Township, but he remained only six months ere removing to his present location. There he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land to which he has since added forty acres. He was married in County Norfolk, Ontario, in 1852, to Lodema Smith, a daughter of Ansel and Phebe Smith and a native of New York. Mr. Smith served two years as a private in the War of 1812. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Holmes are Louis L., Charles R., Lyman W. and Carrie. The youngest son is in business with our subject and the others are with their parents. Mr. Holmes is a Democrat and he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

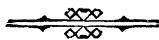
The birthplace of our subject was County Norfolk, Province of Ontario, Canada, and his natal day September 27, 1856. He remained with his parents until he was twenty years old and in the meantime was educated in the common schools of Ionia County. At the age mentioned he began clerking for Smith & Smith of Ionia, but at the end of a twelvemonth came to Belding and entered the employ of Leonard N. Devine, a dealer in general merchandise. He remained in the establishment a year, then spent about the same length of time in the grocery and crockery business. In 1881 he returned to his farm in Orleans Township, where he lived about three years, then removing to Alma he carried on an agricultural store one year.

The next removal of Mr. Holmes was to Belding and here he engaged in the sale of general merchandise, and has remained, pursuing a steady business course. He is the owner of town property valued at about \$4,500, the same consisting of ten lots and three good houses. His outlying land consists of forty acres, improved, in Orleans Town-

ship, one hundred and sixty acres in Sheboygan County, this State, and one hundred and sixty acres of pine land in Minnesota.

At the bride's home in Easton Township, March 20, 1881, Mr. Holmes was united in marriage with Miss Maria Kellogg. This estimable lady was a daughter of Shiverick and Maria Kellogg and was a native of the Empire State. Her wedded life was brief as she was called from time to eternity January 20, 1885.

Mr. Holmes is a firm believer in Democratic principles and policies and has been honored by his associates with election to the office of Town Treasurer, a capacity in which he served one term. He is a Master Mason, enrolled in Belding Lodge, No. 355, and is also a member of Fortuna Lodge, No. 20, K. of P. His business ability and public spirit are recognized by his acquaintances, and with his manly character give him good standing in the community.



LEVERETT H. DOLPH, a prominent citizen of McBride, Montcalm County, resides in a beautiful home which is not only adorned with the usual refinements of a home of taste, but which is rendered delightful as a place of social meeting on account of the hospitality and cordiality of the master and mistress of the house. Mrs. Dolph is a lady of unusual refinement and culture and her home is enjoyed by all who seek it. Mr. Dolph has now retired from active business as a lumberman after a well-spent life of hard work and economy, and is enjoying the fruits of his labor. He is a descendant of a prominent Eastern family, being the son of Norman, the son of George, who was one of the first settlers of Washington County, N. Y. In those early days he improved a beautiful farm on Wood Creek, but the Erie Canal was built through this region and the symmetry of his farm was in his opinion destroyed thereby, so he sold it and removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he improved another farm and resided on it until he was called to his last rest. He was with his father in the battle of Plattsburg, in the War of 1812. Before leaving

the State of New York he built and ran canal boats on the Erie Canal, as he was a mechanic and followed the business of carpenter and cabinet-maker.

It was in 1836 that the family removed from New York to Ohio. Here the father engaged in farming, while at the same time he carried on his business of a builder and contractor. Here he also built a mill. His good wife, who bore the maiden name of Lydia Ann Nims, died in 1860. Norman Dolph married a second time, and after this he removed to Leon, Ohio, and made his home on a large farm, carrying on in addition to his farm work a grocery business. Three months before his death in 1884 he came to the home of his son and spent his last days with him. This man of strong religious convictions and intelligence in public affairs, being a Baptist in church connections and a Republican in politics, passed away at the age of four-score years.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest child of his parents. He was born in Welsh Hollow, Ft. Ann Township, N. Y., December 11, 1831. He was therefore five years old when the family removed to Ohio, where he received his education. He early learned the practical management of a sawmill and operated the one which was built by his father from the time he was a youth until he reached his twenty-sixth year. He then did the same work for others until March of 1861. He now decided to start out for himself more independently and purchased a mill in Cherry Valley. He had to go in debt for this, but by dint of hard work, day and night, he managed to pay for it. For a long while he worked twenty hours out of the twenty-four and as might have been expected he broke down in health. In 1866 he removed to New Lyme and entered upon the same line of business.

Mr. Dolph's coming to Michigan was in the year 1868. He built his first mill at Pierson in the dense forest and here he engaged in manufacturing lumber for ten years. In 1878 he built a shingle mill on section 34, Home Township. In 1882 he built another mill on section 4, Day Township, but by the failure of others he lost a great deal at different times.



J J Morse

Besides the manufacture of lumber Mr. Dolph engaged in general merchandise, in which he was fairly successful. He was well known throughout the East and had the reputation of making an A No. 1 shingle. He has been in the habit of purchasing the land from which he had cleared the timber and turning it into improved farms. In 1887, the timber having given out in the region where his mills were situated, he came to McBride and bought the home in which he now resides, living in the village and superintending his farm outside.

This gentleman owns one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, Day Township, and the same on section 34, Home Township. About one hundred acres of this is finely improved. He has taken much interest in raising blooded stock of all kinds. He owns some fine specimens of the Hambletonian strain of horses, and his principal crop is hay.

The lady who became Mrs. Dolph October 21, 1867, in Lenox, Ohio, was Sarah, daughter of James Akins; she was born in Bristolville, Trumbull County, Ohio, July 4, 1841. Her grandfather came from Ireland in the early days and located in Virginia, from which he removed to Ohio. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. Her father carried on the double avocation of farming and blacksmithing. Her mother was of German descent, being Mary A., daughter of William Barbe, who was a very early settler in Ohio, and whose family belonged to the religious denomination called Dunkards.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolph have three children: Lillian received her education at Stanton, and was for some time her father's book-keeper at Dolph's Mills. She married William Carruthers and they live on a farm in Day Township. The second child, Norman, is a shingle manufacturer at Gladwin. His biographical sketch appears in this book, as well as that of the second son, Charles L., who is also engaged in the manufacture of shingles at Harrison, Mich.

While residing in Pierson the subject of this sketch was a member of the village Council and was its President for several years. He also served on the School Board. The people of McBride

have also made him President of their village. He is an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Independent Order of Good Templars. He takes an interest in political matters and casts his vote with the Republican party. The name of this gentleman was originally DeWolf and was, as its form indicates, of French origin, and the family was of noble blood. Soon after the ancestors of this branch of the family came to America the name was corrupted into Dolph.



JOSEPH D. MORSE. Ionia County is the home of a large number of energetic farmers, many of whom have estates of considerable extent, whereon numerous substantial buildings are seen. One of this number in Otisco Township is Mr. Morse, whose portrait appears on the opposite page. His property is located on section 9, and comprises two hundred and forty acres of land with good buildings, fine stock and all necessary machinery. Mr. Morse pays considerable attention to stock raising and makes rather a specialty of Merino sheep, but he by no means neglects the cereals for which the soil and climate of Central Michigan are so well adapted.

The birth of Mr. Morse took place May 17, 1842, in the township in which he still resides. He remained with his parents until he was seven years old, from which time until he was of age his home was with his uncle, Rufus R. Cook. He then in December, 1863, enlisted in the First Michigan Engineers and served his country faithfully until October 20, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. The only prominent engagements at which he was present were Bentonville and Savannah, but he and his comrades aided the Union cause by their work in throwing up fortifications, building bridges and railroads, and destroying that which would facilitate the movements of the enemy. After his return from the army Mr. Morse turned his attention to farming and has industriously pursued that honorable occupation.

Mr. Morse obtained a valuable Christmas gift in 1867, it being no less than an efficient and affec-

tionate wife. Mrs. Morse was known in her maidenhood as Miss Emily Fisk, she being a daughter of Joseph and Abbie (Kimberly) Fisk, who were natives of Massachusetts. She is second in order of birth in a family which also includes Frank, Ambert and Walter. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Morse is brightened by the presence of three children, named respectively, Ona B., John L. and Rufus R.

In commemoration of the trying experiences in which he participated during the Civil War, Mr. Morse has identified himself with the Grand Army of the Republic as a member of Dan S. R. Post, No. 126. He has taken some part in the civil affairs of the township, by serving as Commissioner and School Inspector, and in 1880 he was Census Enumerator. When called upon to aid in public affairs he is faithful to his obligations, but he has no particular love for official life. He is a Republican, well informed regarding party policy and all topics of general interest, and is numbered among the reliable citizens of the county.



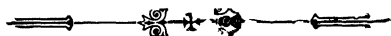
JAMES A. ALDRICH, one of the most prominent and public-spirited farmers and stock-raisers, in Boston Township, Ionia County, resides on section 21. He was born in London District, Canada, on the 27th of August, 1841, and is a son of Robert S. and Sarah J. (Weed) Aldrich, both natives of New York State and of English descent. The father was by trade a wheelwright, which business he followed in the early part of his life, later becoming a farmer. He resided a short time in Canada, and came to Kalamazoo County, Mich., in 1844, where he pursued farming until advancing age obliged him to abandon active work. His wife died about 1864. They were the parents of four children, two of whom are now living: Melissa, the wife of Lee Davis, with whom her father is now residing in Eldorado, Kan., and James A., our subject. The parents were members of the Baptist Church.

The subject of this sketch was but three years

old when he arrived at his new home in Michigan. After receiving a common-school education he remained with his parents on the farm until the Civil War broke out. A month after he attained his majority, he enlisted September 4, 1862, in Company L, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. He was in active service for two years and nine months and was only laid aside by wounds which disabled him. He participated in the battles of Hanover, Gettysburg, and Falling Waters, and was in all the engagements through the Wilderness, Beaver Dam, and Yellow Tavern, Va. This last engagement was a very stormy one and our subject was seriously wounded by a gunshot in the left hip. In consequence of this he was taken to Point Lookout hospital, where he remained until able to be about. The war was then nearly over and he received an honorable discharge June 6, 1865, having participated in fifteen battles, and having been wounded twice in hip and wrist. After his discharge he returned to Michigan and coming to Ionia County purchased of his father, one hundred acres of land, the farm on which our subject now resides. The land was entirely unbroken and covered with a heavy growth of timber and underbrush. The first season he built a small frame house, and worked hard year by year, clearing his land, and putting it under cultivation. It is now all in a fine condition and well improved. His residence and barns are worthy of note, and he has kept a good grade of stock of all kinds.

Mr. Aldrich has always been ready to aid in promoting the best interests of the community, and although not one of the old settlers, or rather not ranking among the very earliest pioneers, he has seen great improvements in the township during his residence here. He started in life without riches and all he has gained, his good farm, and pleasant home, are the result of his industry and enterprise. He intends to spend the remainder of his days in this township. He was formerly a Democrat, but is now a member of the Prohibition party. He has been a School Inspector for two or three terms and has also filled the offices of Road Commissioner and Justice of the Peace. He is at present Master of the Grange to which he belongs, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Aldrich's first marriage was with Mary Lawler, in June, 1865. Of the three children by this marriage, two are living, Willard who is studying law at Ann Arbor, and Robert who resides at Owasso. The mother of these children was called from them while they were still very young. She died February 25, 1870. The second marriage of our subject took place September 20, 1871. The lady whom he now married was Betsey A. Gould, who was the first white child born in Boston Township, and a daughter of Moses and Hannah (Towne) Gould. Mr. and Mrs. Gould were among the very first settlers in the county. They gave their daughter the best education they could command, first in the district schools and afterwards in the State Normal school at Ypsilanti. She was a graduate of that institution in the class of 1865. She engaged in teaching before her marriage and also after that event, teaching in all some thirty-two terms. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and she and her husband are both highly respected and well known in the community in which they make their home.



GEORGE HOPPOUGH. The town of Smyrna, Ionia County, supports some very thriving business establishments, one of them being the store of Mr. Hoppough. A stock of general merchandise is carried and a good business done, it having been built up since 1872, when our subject abandoned farming for merchandising. He understands the needs of the people in this community, is judicious in his selection of goods, and pleasant and honorable in his methods of disposing of them. He has been Postmaster since October, 1872, and has served in public capacities whereby he has become thoroughly acquainted with the people.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Hoppough were Peter and Margaret Hoppough, natives of New York and his parents were Decker B. and Lydia (Noble) Hoppough. His father was born in New Jersey and went to New York when twelve years old, making that his home until 1864, and

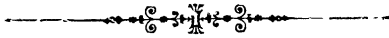
then coming West. He established his home in Otisco Township, Ionia County, buying what was then known as the Moe farm of two hundred and seventy acres. His marriage took place in Honeyoye, Ontario County, his wife being a native of the Empire State and a daughter of Levi Noble, who was born in Vermont. To Decker Hoppough and his wife the following children were born: Hattie A., Mary E., George, Carrie B., Frank, Decker Clark, Jr., Alice, Adda and Mark. All live in Ionia County except Decker, whose home is in North Dakota. Their mother has been for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and to her they owe wise guidance in their early years.

In Ontario County, N. Y., George Hoppough was born December 13, 1845. He obtained a practical education and when quite young took up the occupation of farming in his native State. He came to Michigan with his father in 1864 and continued his former occupation until the time mentioned as that of the beginning of his mercantile career. He is a Master Mason, belonging to Belding Lodge, No. 355, and took his first degree in Grattan Lodge, No. 159. In politics he is and always has been an unwavering Republican. He held the office of Township Clerk two years and that of Collector an equal length of time.

In September, 1874, Mr. Hoppough was united in marriage with Miss Eva Brink, daughter of Irvin and Harriet (Paddock) Brink, natives of New York whose other children are Chancy E., Martha, Girard, Olin, Lavinia, Gazella, Addie, Roxana, Elmer and Fred. All of this family are living—Gazella in Colorado; Girard, Elmer, Fred, Roxana in Tustin, Mich. Olin in Cleveland; Lavinia in Utah; and Ida at Newbury, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Mr. Brink came to this State many years ago and bought an eighty-acre farm in Hillsdale County, but afterward removed to Ionia County. He is now living in Osceola County, still engaged in farming and working more or less at his trade—carpentry. He and his wife belong to the Advent Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoppough are the parents of three intelligent children, named respectively, Cora, Carroll and Clayton. All are still with their parents

and devoting their time to the studies suited to their capacities and such a share in home affairs as their years and strength make fitting. It is the purpose of their parents to equip them as well as possible for the battle of life that they may be able to pursue honorable and useful careers. Mr. and Mrs. Hoppough are well known throughout the town and their circle of friends extends into the surrounding country.

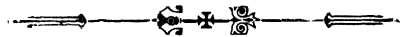


C C. PETERSON, a manufacturer of lumber, and a well-to-do citizen of Home, Montcalm County, is one of our country's adopted sons, who reflect credit alike upon his native and his adopted country. Both parents were born in Gottenburg, Sweden. The father was a carpenter and cabinet-maker. In 1866 he came alone to America intending to engage in work and bring on his family to join him. He worked at his trade at Paris, Mich. After five years of industry and frugality he had accumulated enough money to buy tickets for his wife and all the children. He purchased them and sent them home and joyfully awaited their coming, but before their arrival he sickened and died. The widow came on with her family and supported her little ones for some time, when she married John Miller, a native of her old home. After four years spent at Grand Rapids, the family removed to Howard City, thence to Ionia, and in 1878 came to Home Township. The mother bought the place which the son now occupies, and which she sold to him, and bought another home on section 31, where she now resides. She is an earnest and conscientious member of the Presbyterian Church. By her first marriage she was the mother of four children: our subject; Edwood, who resides at Big Rapids; Alfred, who makes his home with our subject; and Bennie, who is with his mother. Her second union resulted in three children: Josephine, who is her brother C. C's. housekeeper; and Ellen and Freddie who are at home.

The subject of this notice first saw the light in Gottenburg, Sweden, March 13, 1862, and was

therefore eight years old when he took the memorable journey which was to result in such disappointment to all. During the four years that the family resided at Grand Rapids he spent most of the time in school, but during the last year was employed as a cigar maker. He was also in attendance upon school while he lived at Howard City, but while in Ionia worked in a brick-yard. After his mother removed to the old farm in Home Township, he helped to improve it and then for some time worked in a sawmill. He was in the employ of J. B. Mathews, for three years, beginning at the bottom and working his way up to a responsible position in the mill. He was now prepared to buy a farm, and purchased from his mother and settled on the land. With his farming he has also attended to the business of threshing for his neighbors, having a fine steam thresher.

In the fall of 1889, Mr. Petterson erected his present sawmill which is run by steam, and which has a capacity of eight thousand feet per day. Somewhat later he added to his acreage by twenty acres which he bought from his mother. His is the only lumber manufacturing business now located in Home Township. Beside this business he devotes himself largely to general farming and stock-raising. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and has occupied the position of Pathmaster of the township.



JOSEPH TOWNSEND, one of the prosperous farmers of Ionia County, is pleasantly located on section 26, Lyons Township. He has now one hundred and forty-three acres of land, having reduced his landed estate by giving his children tracts upon which to begin their work in the world. Mr. Townsend is engaged in general farming, and markets good crops, as well as stock of average number. He was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., December 4, 1824, and traces his ancestry in the paternal line back to the mother country. His grandfather, Jonathan Townsend, was born in Genesee County, N. Y., and in the same locality, the next in the direct line opened

his eyes to the light in 1800. The father of our subject bore the same given name as the grandfather, and followed the same occupation, farming.

The lady who became the wife of Jonathan Townsend, Jr., was born and reared in Rhode Island and bore the maiden name of Hannah Hines. They lived in the Empire State until 1864, then came to Michigan and located on the section that is now the home of their son Joseph. Here he died in the year 1868, and his wife in 1867. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom survive. Of these Joseph is the eldest. The others are Mrs. Lucy Wilder, who resides in Wayne County, N. Y.; Corlis, who lives in Sanilac County, Mich.; and A. L., whose home is in Lyons Township. Joseph Townsend, who is the third in order of birth in the parental family, received the ordinary school advantages and bore the usual part in home duties until after he was of age. He then learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner and for six years wielded the saw and plane at Syracuse. He then went to Brooklyn, where he worked at his trade about six months, after which he embarked for Australia, in which far country he spent about four years.

Mr. Townsend made the voyage on a sailing vessel, via Cape of Good Hope, and spent a part of his time after reaching Australia in mining. He also worked at his trade, doing a little better than he would have done at home. He returned to his native place, via Cape Horn, stopping in Liverpool and London and spending about a month in the great metropolis. After reaching his old home he gave his attention to farming in the county seven years and in 1864 removed to this State. He selected a tract of land where he is now living, upon which there were no buildings. Here he has pursued the even tenor of his way, making a good support and some provision for future needs, while giving his children good advantages.

In St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1859, Mr. Townsend was married to Miss Mary Arnold. She was born in Jefferson County, August 14, 1838, and reared there. She is the sixth of twelve children born to Caleb and Mary Arnold, who were natives of the Empire State and who died in Michigan. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Townsend con-

sists of four sons and a daughter, whose respective names are Charles, Eugene, Minnie E., Harry W., and Jay. The daughter lives in Lyons Township and is the wife of George S. Stiles. Two sons, Harry and Jay, still remain with their parents.

A peaceable and law-abiding citizen, an enterprising farmer, and a man of honor in the affairs of life, Mr. Townsend has the respect of his acquaintances, and his friendly spirit has won a warmer feeling from his neighbors. He has served as Pathmaster and School Director. His religious belief coincides with the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his political faith is that of the Democratic party.



DANIEL DILDINE, a farmer and stock-raiser of Ionia County, owns and occupies a tract of land on section 9, Easton Township. He bought this land in 1865, when not a stick of timber had been cut upon it, and did some clearing even before he began to make it his home. He has lived upon it since 1870 and now has it supplied with many conveniences and stocked with machinery and animals of considerable value. The attractiveness of the estate indicates something of the nature of the owner and his wife who shares in his plans and calculation, and enjoys with him their results.

William H. Dildine, father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, and for some years lived in New York. In 1843 he came to this State and set up his household in a log house in Easton Township, Ionia County, on section 10. The tract of land that he secured was very slightly improved and much of it was still covered by trees. He developed it and made it his home until called hence in March, 1890. Many years ago he served as Township Treasurer. He voted the Republican ticket, took great interest in the schools, and was an earnest Christian, belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he was Class-Leader for many years. In fact, he was one of the representative pioneers of the county, and highly esteemed.

The first wife of William Dildine was Orrisa Wing,

who left a son Silas, who now lives in East Portland, Oregon. In the Empire State Mr. Dildine was married to Mrs. Jane (Laken) Wing, widow of Silas Wing, and she too left one son, Daniel, subject of this notice. The third matrimonial alliance of Mr. Dildine was with Catherine Reynolds who is still living, occupying the homestead in this State. She belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a highly-respected member of society. Her living children are four in number, namely: Jane, the wife of George Conner, living in Orleans Township; Orrisa, wife of James Delong, who resides in Lake View this State; and William and James, residents of Easton Township. A son and daughter are deceased.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Chemung County, N. Y., April 7, 1840, and was therefore a child of but three years when he began his residence in this State. He received a limited education in the district schools of Ionia County and bore some part in the work by means of which the homestead was brought under subjection. He remained in the county until he was nineteen years old, when he determined to seek the Pacific coast, where his brother Silas was, and where he believed he could do better than at home. His desire to see something of the country was also a factor in his decision. He took passage at New York City on the steamer "Baltic", which landed him on the Isthmus, and crossing to the Pacific side he embarked on the "John L. Stephens", which carried him safely to San Francisco. He left the American metropolis, February 7 and reached the Golden Gate about the 1st of March.

For four years Mr. Dildine made the Golden State his home and during that period was engaged in various occupations. He returned to Ionia County via the Nicaragua route. Not long after his return he bought the property he now occupies and his after work thereon has already been noted. He was married November 25, 1865, to Lucy Heald, and they are the happy parents of one daughter—Mary J., who lives in the same township as themselves and is the wife of Milo Van Slyke.

Mrs. Dildine was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 7, 1845, and was ten years old when her parents came West. Thomas W. and Mary

(Lavery) Heald settled in Orleans Township, Ionia County, and there Mrs. Heald is still living. Mr. Heald died several years since. Five of their children survive, namely: Jane M., wife of Henry Toggart, and Eleanor, wife of A. Grover, both living in Easton Township; Nelson, in Stanton, this State; Mrs. Dildine; and Lyman, in Orleans Township. Mr. Heald was a native of Vermont and Mrs. Heald was born in New York. The former was a carpenter and blacksmith and also devoted considerable attention to farming. He did a great deal toward the improvement of Orleans Township and the building up of Palmer Station.

Mr. Dildine has his own views on political issues and reserves the right to vote for whomsoever he considers best fitted for public office. He and his wife are active in social matters, enjoying the confidence of their neighbors in an eminent degree, and have high standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church.



WILLIAM L. SAMAIN. This gentleman, whose home is in Ionia, is in the employ of the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad as an engineer, having charge of an engine on one of the local trains. He was born in Ann Arbor in 1859 and is of English descent. His father, Joseph Samain, who was born in Baltimore, Md., is still living, but his mother, Betsey (Burhans) Samain, died in 1875. For a number of years their home was near Portland, this State, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits. Politically he is a Democrat and now at the advanced age of eighty-one, hale and hearty.

Our subject was fortunate in being able to secure a good education, his parents being on the alert to give him every advantage they could, and his own application doing the rest. When he became of age he went on the railroad as fireman on an engine. So faithful was he and so observing of the duties performed by the engineer that within two years he was promoted to the charge of an engine. He stands high with his employers, who

recognize the sturdy principles that animate him and the regard he shows for the interest of the road.

Mr. Samain has an attractive residence, well furnished, and showing in and about it the refining touch of woman. It is presided over by a true-hearted wife, to whom he was married in 1883 and whose maiden name was Annie McDonald. She has many sincere friends in the pleasant circle of acquaintances where she and her husband are received. Mr. Samain is a staunch Democrat, fully believing that the prosperity of the Nation depends to a large extent upon the success of this party. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum Lodge in Ionia.



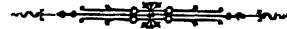
WILLIAM R. TEBBEL. The business of a miller is one of importance in every community as upon it depends much of the comfort of the families in the vicinity. The subject of this biographical notice is engaged in that business in Smyrna, Ionia County, where he owns a milling property valued at \$8,000. He has a large run of custom work, as the products of his establishment have become known as first-class, and the dealers find a ready sale for that which they procure of him. Mr. Tebbel is a practical miller, having thoroughly learned the trade in his youth, and followed it for a considerable length of time.

Mr. Tebbel is a Canadian by birth and is the son of John and Mary (Comer) Tebbel, who were natives of England. They came to this State in 1865 and made their home in St. Clair County, where the husband and father died in September, 1881. The widowed mother is still living at the age of eighty-one years. Their marriage was solemnized in the mother country and they were blest with the following children: Avis, William R., John W., Mary Ann, Alice, James C., Julia and Henry. Avis and Henry are now deceased. The father was a farmer by occupation, and both parents governed their lives by Christian principles, holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The subject of this biographical notice was born December 3, 1838, and remained in Canada, the

land of his birth, until 1862. In the meantime he pursued the studies that are commonly taken up, and when nineteen years old left the parental home to learn the trade of a miller. He has pursued his chosen calling from that day to this, as an apprentice, journeyman and manager. He came to this State in 1862, and made his first settlement in St. Clair County, remaining there a few years. He worked at various places and for different people until 1880, when he established himself at Smyrna and entered upon his successful career here. He is and always has been a Republican. His business reputation is that of a reliable man, and his personal character is such as to give him a position among the respected citizens.

Mr. Tebbel was married to Miss Mary Purdy in 1866. This lady is a daughter of Louis and Charlotte (Bartlett) Purdy, and her brothers and sisters are George, James, John, Charlotte, Harriet, Sarah, Jennie and Elinor. She was well reared and in her own home looks carefully after the comfort and future good of the family. To Mr. and Mrs. Tebbel six children have come, all at home but the first-born, who is happily married and lives in the same town as her parents. The names of the sons and daughters are Jessie, George, Charlotte, Nellie, John and Edna.



HENRY F. HULL residing in Ronald Township, Ionia County, was born in Berlin Township, Rensselaer County, N. Y., February 24, 1824. He is the son of Peter and Leah Almena (Bullock) Hull, and the grandson of Peter Hull an early settler in that county, who came there about 1767. His death occurred the same year, at the advanced age of fourscore and nine years. His grandfather was descended from one of three brothers who came from England and settled on the New England Coast. One found his home in Boston, one in Rhode Island and the third in Connecticut.

The mother of our subject, Leah Almena Bullock, was born in New York State. Her mother was in the Wyoming Massacre and was twice captured and

twice escaped. She wandered on foot two hundred miles, bare-headed and bare-footed far from friends before she was found by any who would care for her. After the marriage of Almema Bullock to the father of our subject at Sand Lake, she made her home in Berlin and afterward in Richfield, Otsego County. In 1848 they came to Michigan, where they lived the remainder of their days. The mother was called from earth in 1856 and the father survived her until 1870.

Mr. and Mrs. Hull were the parents of seven children, two daughters and five sons: Lewis B., and Hamilton are deceased; Lavaldin resides in the city of Troy, N. Y.; Henry F., our subject; Amy R., Mrs. McKenzie, of this county; Ezra lives in Colorado, and Sarah, deceased. Mr. Hull was reared in his native place and he has pleasant memories of his early life there. Mr. Hull was first married in Cooperstown, N. Y., February 6, 1848. He there took to wife Zarina Contraman, a native of New York. From this union six children were born, three only now surviving—Chester F., Daniel D., and Cora E. The mother of these children died December 14, 1867. His second marriage was contracted May 2, 1868, with Sophronia M. Ransom, a native of New York, born in Wayne County, January 29, 1833. Mrs. M. Hull was previous to the marriage with our subject the widow of Mr. Lewis H. Ransom. Her maiden name was Comstock. The children of the second marriage are: Alice E., Mrs. Vernon Howorth, Edgar M., and Henry A.

The subject of this sketch first came to Michigan in 1845 prospecting, and returning East brought his family in 1848. He purchased the land where he now resides in 1838 and moved on to it ten years later. It was a perfectly unbroken forest and he has had to make all the improvements. He has built three houses on it since he first moved there; the last one in which he now resides is a fine two-story brick, which was erected at a cost of \$3,500. It is one of the finest houses in the county. When he first came here there were only forty voters in the township. He has one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. In its cultivation he has proved himself a hard working man and he has gained all he owns by his own endeavors. He has

been active in politics, belonging to the Republican party and always voting the straight ticket. For twenty years he has been Highway Commissioner. His wife professes the faith and doctrine of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while Mr. Hull is a Disciple in belief but is not now connected with any local church.



ALVIN HOOPLE is numbered among the general farmers of Ionia County, owning and operating a tract of land on section 22, Ronald Township. He has made many improvements upon the property since he took possession thereof, and the farm, although not of more than fair size, is very productive and would bring a higher price in the market than some of greater extent. Mr. Hoople was born in County Dundas, Province of Ontario, Canada, March 14, 1851. His parents, Joseph and Polly Ann (Ransom) Hoople, were natives of the same county as himself, and the father is still living in his native land. The mother died April 21, 1860, leaving two daughters and five sons: Caroline, wife of R. Moss, lives in St. Johns, N. D.; William G. is engaged in the leather trade in Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mary A. died when about thirty-seven years old; Henry D. is farming in Canada; Ira A. farms on the old homestead there; Edmond is a farmer in Ronald Township, Ionia County; Alvin, the youngest of the family circle, is the subject of this biographical notice.

The school privileges of Mr. Hoople were confined to attendance in the common schools of his native place and prior to his nineteenth year, at which time he began life for himself. He went to New York and began working in the leather business with his brother William, but after a trial of two months gave up the work and turned to farming. He had an uncle living on Long Island and on his farm he labored six months, and then went to Portland, Pa., on the Delaware River, where he remained five years carrying on a tannery. He next embarked in the furniture business, but being burned out two years later, he went to Great Bend



John Ramsley

and resumed tanning. He remained in that place four years, then came to Ionia County, Mich., and bought an eighty-acre farm on which he has since lived.

The marriage of Mr. Hoople and Miss Nancy Brugler was solemnized in New Jersey, April 9, 1873. The bride was born in that State October 29, 1849, and is the eldest of nine children, making up the family of James and Susan (Cramer) Brugler. Three of her brothers and one sister are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Hoople have had two sons and two daughters. They were bereft of their first-born, James L., in his infancy. Their home is still brightened by the presence of Adel, who was born in New Jersey, May 3, 1875; Gertrude, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 7, 1876; and William G., who was born in this State, December 27, 1883.

Although Mr. Hoople had no superior educational advantages, he is possessed of a considerable fund of knowledge, having taken advantage of various opportunities to inform himself regarding the world's history and the progress of events. He takes an interest in educational matters and those social enterprises which appeal to the intellect. He is now President of the Literary Society of Ronald Township. He exercises the right of suffrage in behalf of Republican principles. He and his excellent wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and are earnest, humble Christians.



JOHN RAMSEY. The late John Ramsey demonstrated in his life what can be accomplished by a man of determined will and good natural ability without the advantage of a thorough education or extraneous influence. He had no advantages other than a vigorous body, strength of mind and good principles, but as years passed on he built up a competence and was able to surround his family with comfort and even luxury. There are many living in Ionia County who well remember the earnestness and honor that characterized him and who recall him as one of the typical farmers of Portland Township.

The ancestors of Mr. Ramsey were originally from Scotland, whence they fled to Ireland in the days of Bruce and Wallace. The ancestral occupation was farming and the religion of the family for many generations was Presbyterian. The parents of our subject were William and Jane (Scott) Ramsey, who were born in the Emerald Isle and who died there, the mother in 1846 and the father in 1857. They reared three sons—Robert, William and John. Robert came to America and settled in St. Clair County, this State, and died at Smith Creek about 1879. William, the sole surviving son of the little family, is carrying on the farm at the old home.

Our subject was born May 7, 1832, and from his eighth year until he left the Emerald Isle, his home was at Raphoe County, Donegal. When in his sixteenth year he crossed the broad Atlantic and, having landed at New York, came to St. Clair County, this State, to join his brother Robert. There he remained nine years following lumbering during the season. His education had been limited, but his natural quickness was such that he was able to attend to any kind of business without difficulty, and as years advanced he kept well informed on general topics of the day, having an ardent love for books and newspapers.

After his marriage Mr. Ramsey bought ninety-seven acres of land in Danby Township, Ionia County, where he lived six years. He then traded for a farm of ninety acres, to which he added until it comprised two hundred and forty-five acres, which was sold and a well-improved tract of two hundred and forty acres in Portland Township purchased. There Mr. Ramsey continued to reside until his death May 4, 1885. Not only by his immediate family circle but by many acquaintances he was sincerely mourned, as he had been a friend to all in need, had lived an upright life and was in cordial fellowship with those about him. He had never formally united with any church, but believed in the tenets of the Congregational society and governed his daily walk by the dictates of conscience.

The lady whom Mr. Ramsey won for his wife was Miss Elvira Compton, daughter of the Rev. John Compton, whose biography appears else-

where in this ALBUM. The marriage ceremony was performed October 30, 1856, and mutual happiness followed in its train. Mrs. Ramsey was the recipient of careful training and was well fitted to discharge the duties that came to her as wife and mother. Five children have been born to them as follows: William J.; Jennie E., who died May 27, 1886; Robert; Freddie died in infancy; George is his mother's mainstay, as he is still at home.

The many friends to whom the memory of Mr. Ramsey is dear, will be pleased to notice his portrait on another page of this volume.



PLEG S. DODGE. The Stanton *Clipper*, of which Mr. Dodge is proprietor and editor, has no superior in the towns of the State. It was established by our subject in 1879, and has grown in power and in worth from year to year. Its subscription list is now over eleven hundred, which gives it a circulation beyond the limits of Montcalm County, so that its influence is felt in many localities. Mr. Dodge possesses a logical mind, and his former life strengthened his habits of thought and his ability to express his ideas in such a way as to move others, so that his editorial quill wields a power beyond that of many editors.

Mr. Dodge was born in the Hoosier State in 1848, being a son of Charles and Melissa (Shaw) Dodge. His mother died when he was in his second year, and he was bereft of his father when but six years old. They were natives respectively of New England and Bucks County, Pa., and the father was a blacksmith, and later a farmer. Although he had scarcely entered his teens when the Civil War began, young Dodge went into the army as a drummer in the Twentieth Ohio Infantry, Company B. After serving several months he was discharged in 1864. In June, 1864 he re-enlisted as a drummer in Company A, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth Ohio Infantry, but was mustered in as a private, and fought with the other boys in blue until the close of the war, receiving his discharge the last of

July, 1865. When his martial duties were over he took up the matter of educating himself, and during a few years following his discharge was a student in the University of Notre Dame at South Bend, Ind., Hillsdale (Mich.) College and the State University at Ann Arbor. He began reading law at Elkhart, Ind., in 1868, was admitted to the bar at Goshen, Ind., in 1869, and in 1873 received a diploma from the Department of Law at Ann Arbor, all expenses of his education being met by money saved from his army service and earned from time to time afterward.

Mr. Dodge came to Stanton that year, and gave his attention to his profession until 1879, when he founded the *Clipper*. He possesses an unusual amount of mechanical ingenuity, and it was under his personal supervision that the machinery for the *Clipper* office was built and set up. He is an inventor of printing presses, and has taken out several valuable patents on important improvements the manufacture of which he has recently commenced. In politics Mr. Dodge is a sound Democrat, and his paper gives voice to his opinions, and the theories and principles of the party.

In his home life Mr. Dodge is happily situated, having an intelligent and well-bred wife and a bright young daughter just advancing into maidenhood. Mrs. Dodge was formerly a resident of Three Rivers, St. Joseph County, and bore the maiden name of Helen J. Throp. She entered into the marriage relation August 6, 1873. The daughter, Chella R., was born November 12, 1876.



LEVI BROAS. Among the residents of Ionia County who are now living in retirement enjoying the results of former labors, is Levi Broas, whose home is on section 11, Otisco Township. He was formerly a large landowner and extensive farmer, having a landed estate of four hundred acres, but he has sold most of the tract for village property, and has retired from active work, except such as accords with his special tastes and affords him recreation. He was a thorough going, energetic farmer, and kept everything

about his home in good shape, and so secured the best results from the cultivation of the soil. He is a great lover of fine horses and always keeps good roadsters, in whose speed and action he takes delight.

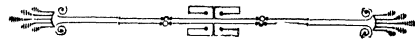
Mr. Broas was born December 31, 1821, in Ulster County, N. Y., and was but a lad when his parents removed to this State. His father, Charles Broas, a native of Long Island, was born December 22, 1790, and in the Empire State was married to Catherine Roosa, who was of Holland extraction and a daughter of Abraham Roosa, who was born in New York. Mr. Broas was a blacksmith in his early life, but he also understood farming and soon after his arrival in this State he located on a farm. He came hither in 1837, and after some investigations took up four hundred acres of Government land in Otisco Township, where the town of Belding now stands. The first house he built was 11x14 feet and there was no dwelling between it and Ionia. His experiences were such as were common to pioneer settlers and the changes that he witnessed gave evidence to the wisdom of his belief regarding the future of the State. The first election in Otisco Township is supposed to have been held in his primitive residence. His death occurred January 1, 1855. His family included two sons and two daughters, named respectively: Peter, Rachel, Sarah and Levi. Peter died in New York at the age of twenty-two years.

Reared from boyhood on the land to which he later fell heir, our subject became thoroughly conversant with farm work in all its phases, from the opening stages of development of raw land to the finished work of a thoroughly-cultivated estate. His recollections of the early times and his reminiscences are interesting, as are the tales of all who participated in such scenes. He obtained a good education for the time, and has added to his knowledge by the means that are open to all who desire information. After his marriage he brought his wife to his father's house and here he has continued to make his home, becoming the owner as mentioned.

The marriage of Mr. Broas took place at Steele's Corners, his bride being Ruth Ann Just, daughter of James Just, whose life is outlined elsewhere in

this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Broas two sons and three daughters have been born, named respectively, Charles, J. Just, Catherine, Belle and Jenny. The last named was a graduate of the Belding High School and was about to be graduated from the High School of Detroit when she was taken sick and died at the age of nineteen years. The sons are engaged in mercantile pursuits and are following their chosen vocation very successfully, Charles being located in Lansing and J. Just in Bay City.

Mr. Broas is a Master Mason, belonging to Belding Lodge No. 355. He is a Republican, always ready to aid the party by his vote, but never consenting to hold office. Among the adornments of his present home is a large cabinet of specimens, including some twelve hundred preserved birds, forty animals and a large collection of insects. There are also some seventy kinds of sea shells, nine varieties of star fish and many corals and agates. The birds include almost every variety found in this State and their preservation is due to the skill of Mr. Broas as a taxidermist, a work which he began about 1874.



WILBER H. LOCKE. Although the events of the Civil War do not appeal with the force of reality to the younger members of society, yet every loyal heart feels a thrill of gratitude to those who fought and endured during those trying years. Among the veterans who are living in Ionia County is Mr. Locke, a farmer of good repute living on section 14, Otisco Township. He has been a lifelong resident of the county, and farming was chosen by him when quite young as the work to which he should devote his energies of mind and body. He has succeeded well in his vocation, has become the owner of a good property, and been able to supply his family with comfort and even luxury.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were Reuben and Pnbe (Russell) Locke, natives of Massachusetts, who removed to New York in an early day and there spent the balance of their days. The husband was a farmer. His father was a Rev-

olutionary soldier and he furnished guns to the patriots during the patriotic war. Both he and his wife belonged to the Baptist Church. In their family was a son Russell, who was born in the old Bay State and was ten years old when he went to New York. He remained there until 1835, then came to this State and set up his home in Ionia County. In the township of the same name he resided a score of years, then removed to North Plains Township and seven years later to Easton. A decade passed and he then removed to Otisco Township, where he is now living.

Russell Locke was married in Oneida County, N. Y., to Mary Goodwin, who shared his fortunes until July 26, 1854, when she crossed the river of death. She left six children, named respectively: Cynthia, Wilber H., Ruth Ann, Electa, Minersa and Maria. When the family came hither there were but few houses in the county and their experiences included arduous toil, lonely hours, and deprivation of the privileges and conveniences of thickly settled sections. The first vote cast by Russell Locke was for Andrew Jackson, but his next was for a Whig candidate and with that party he acted until its disorganization, since which he has been a Republican. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

The subject of this notice remained under his father's roof until he was twenty years old and then entered the army. He was born in Ronald Township June 14, 1841, enlisted in September, 1861, and was mustered in on the 12th of the month. He was enrolled in Company D, Third Michigan Cavalry, with which he fought until January 18, 1864, when he was discharged at La Grange, Tenn. The next day he re-enlisted and his final discharge was received October 12, 1865, after "the cruel war was over." He was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 1862 and in 1864 became Sergeant. The noted battles in which he took part were Island No. 10, Iuka, Shiloh and Corinth. The work he did in his country's cause was not confined to those fields, but his loyalty and devotion were shown in his obedience to camp rules, on weary marches and in skirmishes without number.

A short time after his return from the army Mr. Locke was married in Ionia to Harriet Parker,

daughter of Edward and Clarissa (Gregory) Parker. The bride's parents were natives of Orleans County N. Y., and their only other child was a daughter Sarah. Since 1866 Mr. and Mrs. Locke have been journeying down the stream of time side by side. They have two sons, Alfred R. and Charles P. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Locke is upon a fine tract of land consisting of two hundred and forty acres, two hundred of which have been bereft of timber, fitted for cultivation and supplied with necessary and convenient buildings. The farm also bears thriving orchards and such other improvements as belong to a thoroughly well-regulated estate. Mr. Locke was a Republican until quite recently, but he is now a Democrat.



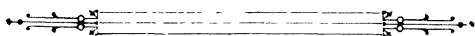
BERT B. SAMPSON is a typical Western man of the better sort, well educated and progressive, and wide-awake to the interests of his family and the community. He was born in Porter County, Ind., on the 16th of July, 1855. He is the son of Newlan and Jane (Carman) Sampson, both natives of New York. He early emigrated to the Wolverine State, being only three or four years old when his father decided to come to Hillsdale County. Here they made their home upon a farm.

In early life our subject was favored with good opportunities for an education and he received excellent business training. He was an attendant on the High School at Hillsdale. His father enlisted in Company K, Eighteenth Michigan Infantry and he met his death in the Battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864. Mr. Sampson has four sisters living, namely, Mrs. Kate Hall, who resides in Lynn, Mass.; Mrs. Martha Rich, living in Hillsdale County, Mich.; Anna G. Simpson, residing at Hillsdale unmarried and Mrs. Phila A. Harmon, residing at Eaton Rapids. Most of his life has been spent in Michigan and he has never gone out of it except for a short visit, not exceeding six months.

At the age of eighteen years young Sampson went to Stanton, Mich., and engaged in the milling and lumbering business and thus continued

until about seven years ago, when he came to his present homestead in Sidney Township, Montcalm County. He has been a lumber scaler and always commanded excellent wages at this work. September 27, 1880, he was married to Emma A. Berry, of this county. Four lovely children enlighten their home, Leon G., born November 18, 1881; Mabel, November 23, 1883; Lottie J., August 16, 1885; and the baby not yet named who came to this household January 5, 1891.

The gentleman of whom we write takes an active interest in educational matters and is giving his children a good schooling. He is also wide-awake on political questions and is a thorough Prohibitionist. He views all subjects from a moral and religious standpoint and is an earnestly conscientious man, although not a member of any special church; yet he is a Sunday-school worker and has acted as Superintendent of Sunday-school. Five years ago he was so unfortunate as to lose his house by fire, but he rebuilt it at once and in 1888 he erected his large and handsome barn. He has a fine farm of seventy acres in first-class condition.



MRS. SUSAN PHILLIPS. That business ability is not confined to the male sex is proved by the experience of the estimable lady above named, who is one of the most successful farmers of Ionia County. She has a good property on section 23, Easton Township, bought with her own hard-earned money, and carried on so carefully and intelligently that it affords her an excellent maintenance and enables her to make some provision for the future. If industry, economy and prudent management entitle one to representation in a BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, then is Mrs. Phillips deserving of mention here, and we deem it a pleasure to represent a brief outline of her history to our readers.

Mrs. Phillips comes of highly respected families of the East, her parents being George and Rebecca (Green) Cummins, of New Jersey. Their family comprised eight sons and daughters, and the other survivors are Mathias, living in Genesee County,

this State; Green, whose home is in New Jersey; Elizabeth, wife of William Vreeland, in New Jersey; Mary, wife of Harvey Fleming, in Oakland County, this State; Rebecca, wife of Nicholas Martines, in New Jersey; and Joseph, who also lives in their native State.

Susan Cummins, now Mrs. Phillips, was born in Warren County, N. J., April 23, 1845. Her father was a farmer and she, like other farmers' daughters, became conversant with many of the details of agricultural work. She pursued her studies in the common school and remained at home until she had grown to womanhood. After coming to this State she was married November 7, 1867, in Oakland County, to Hiram W. Phillips. Two children were born of this union—Ruby, wife of J. O. Post, living in Easton Township, and Eula, wife of William Lee, whose home is in Ionia. In 1874 Mrs. Phillips took possession of the property which she had bought and upon which she is still living. The tract consists of fifty-five acres, supplied with a good residence and such outbuildings as are made necessary by the work carried on there.

Mrs. Phillips necessarily finds her time quite well taken up with the management of her farm and of business affairs connected therewith, but she is able to bear some part in the social pleasures of the neighborhood and is a respected member of society. She has the confidence of the community and, as one who has made her own way to competence, she is regarded as affording a fine example of what can be accomplished by a woman who is thrown upon her own resources and has the worthy ambition to make for herself a home.



THOMAS J. ALLEN. The late Thomas J. Allen was one of those active, energetic men to whom Ionia County, in common with other sections of the country, owes much of its prosperity and the greater part of its development. He was always ready to engage in any work by which he could earn an honest dollar and his busy life was also a useful one. When called

to exchange time for eternity he was occupying a farm in Sebewa Township, the original tract consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, to which he had subsequently added seventy-six adjoining. In the division of his property the latter fell to the children of his first wife, but it has been bought by the two younger brothers and again united with the original homestead. It is now occupied by the widow and her son Merritt, and has been the family home since the father's decease, which occurred in 1873.

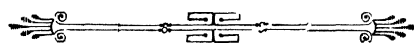
The parents of our subject were William and Margery (Domine) Allen, both natives of the Empire State. They removed to this State many years ago and here the father died. The mother survived several years and died at the home of her son Thomas. Their family comprised five children, named respectively: Prudence, Thomas J., William, George and Minerva. George died in infancy; Minerva is the wife of Henry Reed, of Sebewa, Ionia County.

Thomas Allen was seventeen years old when he became a resident of Portland, Jay County, and thence he came to Ionia County in 1861. He was engaged in farming from his youth up to a greater or less extent, and for some years ran a threshing machine. During the winter season he was principally occupied in lumbering in the northern woods, but when a young man had carried on that work in Minnesota. He owned a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Jay County, which he exchanged for an equal amount in Ionia County, giving quite a sum as boot. He continued the improvement on his new farm and was prospering in his calling when death took him.

When twenty-three years old Mr. Allen was married to Miss Emily Hammontree, daughter of George Hammontree, the marriage taking place in Ionia County. By the union he became the father of two children—Amanda J., now the widow of Nelson Van Buren, and George W., a clothier in Portland. The latter married Anna Probasco, daughter of E. Probasco, but she is now deceased. April 26, 1859, our subject made a second matrimonial alliance, wedding Miss Rozilla H. Smith. This lady was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 9, 1834. Her parents, Samuel and Mary

J. (Hannah) Smith, were natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers at their Ohio home. The father died there in 1840 and the widow shortly afterward removed with her five small children to Seneca County, where all grew to womanhood. They eventually became residents of this State and the mother died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Allen, in 1888. Besides Mrs. Allen the children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith are Elizabeth J., wife of William Martin; Nancy, wife of Larned Brown; Sarah Ann, wife of J. W. Nichols, and Mary, wife of Hiram Hart.

The second marriage of Mr. Allen was blest by the birth of two sons—Merritt S. and Ora C. The elder son was graduated from the Portland High School in the class of '88 and engaged in teaching, but has recently turned his attention to the management of the homestead and bids fair to be a successful farmer. The younger son resides in Danby, having as his wife Carrie Wilkins, formerly of Portland. He is a teacher and also a farmer. The father of these young men was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which denomination their mother is identified. He was quite active in local politics and never fails to go to the polls and cast a Republican ticket.



WILLIAM KEEFER is the son of Abram Keefer, born near Philadelphia, Pa. The family is of Pennsylvania Dutch origin. Abram Keefer married Mary Ann Weston, a native of Pennsylvania who was born in 1800. They lived in Ohio after their marriage until 1847, when they came to Michigan and settled upon a farm on section 1, Orange Township, Ionia County. It was all raw land, a portion being oak openings. He took three hundred and twenty acres upon which he built a hewed log house, the nicest house in the country at that time. He was a fine mechanic and bridge builder, building many bridges in Ohio and Michigan. He died in 1862 and his wife in 1872. Of their eight children six grew to maturity and five are now living: George lives in Portland; Abram in Orange; Samuel in Kansas;

Mary Ann (Mrs. O. Morse) in Gratiot County; and our subject, the youngest of the family. The father was a staunch Democrat in politics. He showed great interest in educational matters, and was a member of the School Board. One son, John, served in a regiment of Michigan infantry and was killed in battle.

December 16, 1837, was the natal day of our subject, his birthplace being Stark County, Ohio, and he was therefore ten years old when his father came to Michigan. He attended school in the log schoolhouse on his father's farm and then remained at home and assisted in the work until he reached his majority, and indeed after that he preferred to stay at the old place and relieve his father of the responsibility of the home farm. For forty-three years his home has been here and he has seen this property pass through all the stages of improvement from wild land to its present state. He has three hundred and forty acres of land, including the old homestead of one hundred and fifty-five acres. He is a great worker, having cleared off one hundred acres of this himself, including the removal of stumps and stones from all of it. Two hundred and eighty-five acres are under the plow. He practices mixed farming and raises graded stock for market. His residence built in 1882 cost \$3,000, and he has built a barn 26x72 feet and a large amount of shed room.

Mr. Keefer married August 13, 1862, Julia M. Carbaugh, a daughter of George and Magdalena (Forman) Carbaugh, both natives of Pennsylvania who came to Michigan in 1856, and settled where William Carbaugh now lives. George Carbaugh died in 1862, and his wife in 1870. Of their eight children five are now living. Mrs. Keefer was the youngest child, born September 14, 1838, in Virginia where she received a common-school education. Her parents were hard-working people and starting in early life with but very little have gained all that they have by persevering and industrious efforts. The mother of William Keefer was for ten years before her death perfectly helpless and dependent upon her son for every attention and assistance, which he granted most tenderly and unstintingly, and for nineteen years was badly afflicted with rheumatism. Of his five children,

the eldest, Ulysses Grant, was born October 14, 1863; Emma May, born September, 1865, is now the wife of William T. Naldrett, with whom and her one child, Dora May, she lives in Midland County, Mich.; William S., born September 13, 1867; Ida Ella, October 27, 1870; Sheridan Wilson, December 19, 1873. All have had a good schooling. Ida has taken a course in the High School at Ionia, and William S. is a student in the business college. He has been a member of the Grange, of which he has been Master. He has always voted the Republican ticket since Abraham Lincoln's first candidacy and is wide-awake to all political questions. He is Assessor of School District No. 1, fractional, and has been a member of the School Board for about twenty years. For four years he has been Supervisor of the township and has also filled the offices of Constable and Justice of the Peace. He operated a threshing machine for nine years and his son has for six years been in the same line of work, while his father showed the same liking for machinery in his operation of a sawmill for some years. His character for integrity and temperance and his connection by marriage with some of the best families in the township have combined to make his name a prominent one in that section.

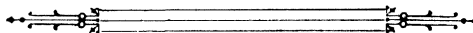


MARCELLUS J. ALLEN, a prosperous farmer residing on section 5, Ronald Township, Ionia County, was born in Long Plains, Mich., October 27, 1845. His father, Melvin B. Allen, was born and reared in Vermont. At eighteen years of age he removed to Franklin County, N. Y., there he married Eliza C. Wood, who was born in Malone, Franklin County, N. Y. After three years residence in that State they removed in 1837 to Michigan and settled in Burton Township, Ionia County, when there were very few settlers in that county. They afterward lived in Palo, Ronald Township, thence removed to Long Plains, where our subject was born. They finally made their home in Ionia, where the father died in 1887. The mother, now in her seventy-seventh year, resides with a daughter in East-n

Township. Their five children are: Claria, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Elizabeth, Mrs. W. S. Cowan; our subject; Edgar M., who died in Colorado; and Herbert L.

The subject of this biographical review took his first schooling in a log schoolhouse. Afterward he attended the Union school at Ypsilanti. He began work as a clerk in a store at Bay City. He spent one year there and then one year in Ionia. He then purchased and settled upon the place where he now resides. During the two years when he was clearing his place of timber he and his brother Edgar kept bachelor's hall on the place. This however became wearisome and uninteresting and on October 15, 1871, he married Susan S. Morrison, a native of Ionia, Mich., and at once went to housekeeping on the farm. There was then no road to the place but it is now one of the finest farms in the county. He has two hundred and four acres all under cultivation, except ten which he keeps in timber. No children have been sent to this pleasant home.

Mr. Allen carries on general farming and stock-raising. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 203 at Palo. In this lodge he is the Treasurer. The grandfather of our subject was Timothy Allen, a Vermont boy in the War of 1812. The beautiful residence in which our subject and his wife reside is a two-story brick house which cost him \$3,700, not counting his own labor.



EDWARD BARNARD. This gentleman resides on a farm on section 27, Orange Township, Ionia County. He belongs to a family of Scotch origin. His father, Levi Barnard, a native of Connecticut, was born about 1779, and combined with the business of a farmer the trades of a wagonmaker and shoemaker. His mother, Polly (Milkes) Barnard, was a native of Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. Her father was a remarkable man physically, being a giant in stature and strength, weighing three hundred and forty pounds and being

well-proportioned. He could lift enormous weights and accomplish prodigious tasks.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Barnard were married in Rome, N. Y., and from there they emigrated to Canada, where for about six years they kept a tavern. They then returned to New York, settling in Orleans County upon a timbered farm, becoming pioneers of that region; they then proceeded to improve the farm upon which they lived for sixteen years. Their next removal was to Niagara County, where they made their home upon a farm until their death in 1861. Sixteen children blessed their home, only two of whom are now living. One daughter, Mrs. Mary Ann Horton, still resides in Niagara County, N. Y. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father was very active in church matters. He was also deeply interested in politics, being a Whig in the early days, but with many other Whigs joined the Republican party upon its formation. At one time he held the office of Supervisor, also that of Justice of the Peace.

Edward Barnard was born July 15, 1825, in Orleans County, N. Y. At sixteen years of age he removed with his parents to Niagara County, and there he resided until 1849, when he came to Michigan to visit his brother, Esquire Barnard, who was a pioneer settler here. After his return home he was united in marriage March 14, 1850, with Elizabeth Jane Hostetter, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Saddlesarm) Hostetter, natives of Pennsylvania, and on both sides belonging to Pennsylvania Dutch families, all being engaged in the business of farming, and descendants of very early settlers of that State. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Barnard was over one hundred years old at the time of his death, while the family on her paternal side were also long lived. Mr. and Mrs. Hostetter were the parents of seven children, four of whom are now living. Mrs. Hostetter died in 1855, and her husband followed her in 1863. Their daughter, Mrs. Barnard, was born September 21, 1831, in Niagara County, N. Y.

The newly married couple made their wedding trip to Michigan and set up housekeeping in a log shanty on section 27, entering at once upon the improvement of forty acres of raw land. That

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poverty in youth does not preclude an honest, industrious, capable man from acquiring wealth, is proved in the history of this prosperous farmer. They were at the time of their marriage very poor and to get here had to borrow \$100, upon which they paid seven per cent. interest. Only \$30 remained in the family purse when they reached their new home, and they had to go in debt for the land. Besides this sum of money, they had their own sturdy independence, good health, and forty acres of encumbered land to begin with. Mr. Barnard cleared off thirty acres and cultivated it. To this he added eighty acres of raw land, of which he has cleared and put under cultivation sixty-five acres. The early cultivation of land with the pioneers of Ionia County, included a general clearance of their acreage from stumps and stones. There were no settled roads then, and plenty of Indian neighbors and wild animals abounded, but Mr. Barnard had a happy faculty of getting along well with the Indians.

Mr. Barnard has always carried on his farming actively and has wisely chosen to follow mixed husbandry. He devotes considerable attention to stock-raising and has on his farm the Short-horn and Devon cattle. After residing on this place for three years he removed back to the old home in New York, where he remained for two and a half years, and then made his permanent home in Michigan. He now has one hundred and sixty acres of land, located on sections 22, 27 and 28. His present residence he erected in 1870, at a cost of \$2,100, besides his own labor and supervision. All the improvements now on the farm have been placed there by himself. He is a member of the Patrons of Industry, also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity, both at Port-land.

In the early days Mr. Barnard was a Road Overseer, and many of the good roads in the county were made by him, and were cut through heavy timber. In those days they were glad to get a market for their eggs at five cents a dozen and their butter at five cents a pound. Mrs. Barnard assisted her husband bravely in all his outside work; he would sow the wheat and then she followed him to drag it in. An ox-team was his only motive power

and for three years his best vehicle a sled, as he was too poor to buy a wagon. This beautiful home has never been blessed with children. Mr. Barnard takes an interest in public affairs and has always voted the Republican ticket. His judgment is considered sound and he has been chosen sixteen times to serve as juror in both State and United States Courts. His brothers, Esquire Levi and James, died in this and Berlin Townships. Mr. Barnard stands as one of the representative men of Orange Township, and is highly esteemed in the community which has so long been his home.

A view of the commodious residence and farm-buildings on Mr. Barnard's estate appears elsewhere in this volume.



WASHINGTON CURRIE, a representative citizen and prominent pioneer of Ionia County, resides on section 16, Easton Township. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., March 11, 1834, and is the son of William and Catherine (Murry) Currie. His father emigrated from Scotland to America when a boy of seventeen years, and his mother was a native of New York State, of Scotch parentage. He lost his father when a babe of eighteen months and when only five years old his mother was taken from him by death. A kindly aunt, Mrs. Margaret Fleming, a Scotch woman, reared the child. When only three years old he had been brought by his mother and aunt to Lenawee County, Mich., where the mother died.

At the age of seven years our subject accompanied his uncle and aunt to Ionia County. The trip here was made by teams to the vicinity of Jackson, where they transferred their goods to a flat-boat and in this they made the remainder of the journey. Mr. Currie vividly recalls the incidents of that trip, during which the boat ran on to a rock, and the kind settlers by the river came with canoes and assisted them in releasing their boat and getting it in deep water. Upon reaching this county they settled on a farm in Easton Township,

which is now owned by Norman Clark, and here Mr. Fleming died.

The rudiments of his education were acquired by our subject in the primitive schools of the backwoods. His marriage December 10, 1854, united him with Alvira Sweet, a daughter of Reuben and Hester (Skut) Sweet, who lived near Rochester, N. Y. By this union Mr. Currie had one son, George W., who married Alma Snell.

Our subject settled on his present farm in the spring of 1855 and made his home in a log cabin 18x28 feet in size. Many years later he removed from beneath this humble roof into his present fine residence, a view of which is presented on another page. His farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres in a good state of cultivation, and his comfortable home and fine farm are a standing monument to his enterprise and energy. He and his good wife are leading members of society and are well and favorably known throughout the community where they reside.



JAY ROSS. The farmers of Lyons Township, Ionia County, have a good representative in the gentleman above named, whose fine farm on section 4, has been brought to its present state by his own efforts, he having cut the first stick of timber felled upon it. In subduing the land, making improvements upon it and raising crops of various kinds Mr. Ross has shown a degree of enterprise and an understanding of his calling that stamps him as one of the intelligent agriculturists, so many of whom are to be met with in the county. In other ways also he may be taken as a fair type of the class, his citizenship being reliable, his intelligence above the average and his private character admirable.

The birthplace of Mr. Ross was Rensselaer County, N. Y., and the date of his arrival upon the stage of human events August 21, 1826. His father and grandfather bore the same name—Joshua—and both were born in Rhode Island. The grandfather was a sailor and the father a stonemason.

The latter went to the Empire State and married Anna Rounds, who was born in Rensselaer County, and there the young couple remained until 1836. They then went to Yates County and the husband turned his attention to farming. Ten years later they came to Ionia County, Mich., and established themselves on section 5, Lyons Township. They took possession of a new farm and had made considerable improvement upon it before the husband was called hence in 1851. The widow died on the same farm in 1870. They reared five daughters and four sons, all yet living but one, Moses, who died in California. The other brothers and sisters of our subject are Anna, now Mrs. Nichols, of Colorado; Peter, who lives in North Plains Township; Jane, wife of Fred Smith, living in Genesee County; Mary L., now Mrs. Griswold, of Ovid, Clinton County; Mrs. Lucelia H. Ludwig, of Ionia County; Mrs. Amelia Brown, living in Mecosta County; and Nathan W., whose home is in Otisco Township, Ionia County.

Jay Ross is the oldest child of his parents. He was ten years old when he left his native place for Western New York and was twenty when he came to this State. His education was acquired in the district schools of the Empire State and his knowledge of farming was largely gained while aiding his father on the home place. Immediately after his marriage, which took place in the fall of 1850, he made his home where he now lives, buying forty acres of land for \$100. He added to the extent of his farm as circumstances warranted and now has one hundred and ten acres, most of which is under the plow. He raises the crops that are adapted to the soil and climate and gives such attention as is usual to raising domestic animals, making a specialty of neither. His fields are enclosed by good fences, the outbuildings are substantial and ample for their purposes, and the dwelling is comfortable and homelike.

At the bride's home, in the village of Lyons, September 10, 1850, Mr. Ross was married to Miss Julia Nichols. This lady was born in Yates County, N. Y., February 3, 1829, her parents being John and Julia (McCloud) Nichols. Her father was born in Germany and her mother in New York. They spent their wedded life in the Empire State

and their mortal remains were laid away side by side in Avon, Livingston County. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ross has been blest to them by the birth of five children, whose record is as follows: John E., born in 1853, is living in Lyons Township; E. Madora, born in 1855, is the wife of W. C. Ely and her home is in Lyons Township; Eugene J., born in 1859, lives in Ionia and is janitor of the court house; Lenna M., born in 1861, is the wife of George Corbin and their home is in Grand Rapids; Charles E., born in 1869, still remains with his parents and is his father's assistant in managing the farm.

Mr. Ross helped to organize the first school in his neighborhood and hired the first teacher in the district. In order to increase the attendance and so keep up the school he sent his eldest son when he was but four years old. He has continued his interest in educational affairs and has also been ready to take a part in other worthy movements. His first vote was cast in behalf of Gen. Winfield Scott and he gives his aid and influence to the Democratic party. He is a member of the Patrons of Industry. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church of Muir, of which he has been Trustee. The oldest settler, save one, now living in the neighborhood, he is widely known and is looked upon as an honor to the community.



WILLIAM BROOKS is one of the men who are keeping up the reputation of Ionia County as an agricultural region of decided productiveness, equal to any within the bounds of the State. His farm is favorably located on section 36, Orleans Township, and consists of sixty acres of land, upon which stand the usual buildings seen in a flourishing agricultural district and over which graze well-fed herds of domestic animals. Mr. Brooks gives his attention to general farming, as he has done for many years.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were Caleb and Hannah (Ellis) Brooks, who were born in the Green Mountain State, but during the latter years of their lives resided in New York. Caleb

Brooks entered the Revolutionary army at the age of thirteen years and he also fought the British in the War of 1812. In 1855 he made a visit to his son in Michigan. He died in Antwerp, N. Y., at the venerable age of ninety-seven years, and his wife died there after having passed her one hundredth birthday.

Our subject is a son of William E. Brooks, who was born in Vermont, but went to New York during his early life and when part of that State was not fully developed. He lived there until 1846, then came to Ionia County, this State, and made his final home in Ronald Township. There he took up two hundred and twenty acres of land on which he continued the work to which he devoted his life—farming. When a boy he had learned the butcher's trade but he followed it only a short time. His death occurred March 5, 1869. He had served as Highway Commissioner several terms. He and his wife, who died in 1887, belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Caroline Kent. Her parents were Nathaniel and Hannah (Mead) Kent, and her mother was first married to Luther Dorwin, who was a soldier of the Revolution and the War of 1812. He fought seven years in the first struggle for independence, and while cheering at the close was mistaken for a British soldier and fired upon by his own comrades, seven bullets passing through his hat. To Luther Dorwin and his wife eleven children were born: Stephen, William, Hubby, Zeddock, Amos, Laura, Hannah, Nancy, Ruth, Sally and Nabby: all are deceased. The family circle to which our subject belongs includes also Caroline, Minerva, Milton, Nathaniel, Curtis, Stephen, Erastus and Angelo.

William Brooks, the subject of this sketch, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., February 24, 1828, and was nineteen years old when he accompanied his parents to this State. He lived in Ronald Township twenty-five years, then made his home in Ionia City for nine years. In 1875 he came to Orleans Township, where he has remained, steadily pursuing his occupation. In Ronald Township he was the owner of one hundred acres of land, but he sold it upon his removal to the county seat and invested his capital in the mercantile business.

In company with C. A. Preston and William H. Bentley he built the Union Block, in which he had a third interest.

The marriage of Mr. Brooks to Miss Margaret Wicks was solemnized at Smyrna August 12, 1866. The bride was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Filkins) Wicks, natives of New York, who came to Ionia County in 1846. They located in Otisco Township, but after a sojourn of a few years removed to Orleans Township, where they died at the respective ages of seventy-seven and eighty-eight years. They were members of the Baptist Church. Mr. Wicks was Treasurer of Orleans Township for a number of years. He was a blacksmith by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks have two children—Willis W. and Marian M.—both residing at home. Mr. Brooks has been a member of the Patrons of Industry and is a member of the Grange. He is a Master Mason, belonging to Ionia Lodge. While living in Ronald Township he served as Treasurer two years, and in Ionia he held the same office and for the same length of time. In politics he has always been an adherent of the Republican party. Three of his brothers—Stephen, Angelo and Erastus—were in the Union army during the late war, survived its dangers, and are still living.



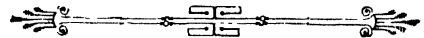
NAPOLEON B. RICE is a man who is very much respected in the community where he resides. This esteem he fully merits by the exemplary manner in which he performs the duties of citizenship. The public offices which he has filled are important and trustworthy, and the great length of time which he has held these positions speak forcibly of the faithful performance of their duties.

Mr. Rice was born in Ontario County, N. Y., February 7, 1829, and is the son of Caleb and Lucy (Lathrop) Rice, natives of New York. Caleb Rice was a clergyman in the Baptist Church, a man of great piety and no doubt one who sowed many seeds by the wayside which eventually produced golden harvests. In his ministerial career of fifty years duration, this good man, without doubt, gar-

nered many harvest sheaves of his own sowing, as he commenced at the age of nineteen years and preached until the time of his death. He came to Michigan in 1850 and located in Eaton County, where he died February 22, 1860. He was twice married; by his first wife he had three children, and by the second, seven—three of whom still survive: John L., a resident of Geneseo, N. Y.; Ephilet, in Eaton County, this State; Napoleon B., our subject; Wealthy D. was the wife of George Sprague, and both are deceased.

Our subject was reared to farm pursuits, alternating with teaching. His career commenced as a teacher in Michigan at the age of nineteen years, and his first efforts were in Hillsdale, Washington and Eaton Counties. In 1857 he engaged in milling pursuits and continued in this business four years. He afterward went onto a farm where he remained eleven years, but soon went back to the mill where he has been since. Mr. Newman and our subject own the mill, whose capacity is one hundred and seventy-five barrels, and their principal shipping point is New York.

Mr. Rice married Mary Newman November 23, 1857. Three children have blessed this union: Effie Amelia, died in August, 1883; Charles C. and Hiram Elwin, who are operating as millers. Mr. Rice is a member of the Universalist Church, is a staunch Democrat and has been Supervisor and Assessor about ten years. On account of the great integrity which he displays in performing the duties of his office he has been re-elected a number of times.



ABIJAH RICH has long been numbered among the farmers of Ionia County, having in 1857 cast in his lot with the residents in Otisco Township. He at that time purchased a farm of eighty acres, but he has increased his possessions and now has one hundred and fifty-three acres in the township, two-thirds of which is under the plow. In 1888 Mr. Rich bought two lots in Belding, on which he has built a fine dwelling suited to his comfort and that of his family.

This property is valued at about \$2,000. It will thus be seen that our subject has been successful in accumulating worldly goods, and that he has demonstrated the fact that farming is a work in which men can gain a competence.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Beldon Rich, who lived and died in Seneca County, N. Y. In his family was a son, Noah, who married Hannah Foster, daughter of Abijah Foster. The couple finally came to this State and settled in Wayne County. About 1854 they changed their residence to Ionia County and Mr. Rich bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Otisco Township, where he remained until death. He built the hotel at Smyrna. To him and his wife one son and one daughter were born, named respectively, Abijah and Harriet.

The birth of Abijah Rich took place March 24, 1825, at the old home of the family in Seneca County, N. Y. He remained with his parents until he was seventeen years old when, their home then being in this State, he returned to the place of his nativity, remaining there until 1850, engaged in farming. He then returned to Michigan and located in Kent County, where he remained until the period before mentioned as the time of his arrival in Ionia County.

When he returned to this State our subject was accompanied by a wife with whom he was united December 25, 1849. She bore the maiden name of Hannah L. Putnam and is one of seven daughters born to Thomas and Abigail (Grover) Putnam, her sisters being named Sophia, Nancy, Lucinda, Sarah, Orpha and Emeline. Her parents were natives respectively of Vermont and Connecticut. She was carefully reared, and not only instructed in housewifely duties and the ordinary branches of an English education, but taught the principles that should animate every human being. Mr. and Mrs. Rich have had five sons and two daughters, named respectively: Josiah R., Byron, Dan, Hattie, Frank R. and Lerna and Fred (twins). They have been bereft of the earthly companionship of two, Josiah and Hattie, but they are looking forward to a reunion with them in the land beyond the tomb.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Rich belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and their standing among the

membership is excellent. Mr. Rich entered the Union service February 14, 1865, as a private in Company H, Tenth Michigan Cavalry, and was discharged September 22, after the close of the war. He never aspires to office but is content to discharge the duties of a private citizen and is an unflinching supporter of the Republican party.



LOUIS S. ROELL is the affable host of the Welch House in Portland, Ionia County, and is also the proprietor and manager of a general store in this village. He has been a resident of the place a short time only, but already his qualities are making themselves felt in business circles and among the traveling public. As an hotel keeper he has had an experience of some years and to his new field he brings the tact and courtesy that make of every stranger an honored guest and of their comfort a matter of moment. His years have been characterized by energetic pursuit of whatever occupation promised best results in the town in which he was located, and a determination to rise above the simplest needs of humanity.

The Roells came from Scotland to America, the family being established in Canada by John Roell, who had been owner of a glass factory in Aberdeen, but after his emigration bought a large tract of land on which he resided until his death in 1836. His son, Mathias, was twelve years old when the ocean was crossed and when grown he became a soldier in the British army, holding the rank of Sergeant. He took up the profession of medicine and after finishing his studies practiced in Canada. He died in the Dominion May 20, 1869; his widow now lives in Ogdensburg, N. Y. To this couple were born six sons and six daughters, three of the number dying in early life and three in mature years. John, a resident of Ogdensburg, N. Y., died in 1871, and the same year his sister, Mrs. Susan Marsh passed away; Frank, a contractor and builder, died in Canada August 22, 1886. The living members of the family are Louis S., subject of this notice; William M., a sawyer in Muskegon, this State; Mrs. John Falkner, of Wisconsin;

Mrs. James Barber, residing in Ogdensburg, N. Y.; Mrs. William Pettengill, whose home is in Ft. Covington, N. Y.; and Mrs. Catherine Matt, of Springfield, Mass.

The subject of these paragraphs was born in St. Catherine's, Province of Ontario, Canada, March 3, 1842, and at the early age of eight years began working in a store, continuing his duties here some two years. When just entering his teens he went to New York alone, and found employment on a farm, and there he labored until the breaking out of the Civil War. "The shot heard around the world" had scarcely ceased to echo over the land when he enlisted, signing the roll of Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-second New York Infantry, August 14, 1861. He remained in the service until January 14, 1862, when his ill health made a discharge necessary, he having been wounded at Antietam. Much against his wish he was obliged to resume the arts of peace, but he gave his influence and sympathy to the Union cause and his thoughts often reverted to the fields of conflict.

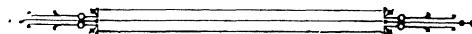
When he left the army Mr. Roell went to Wisconsin and thence to Saginaw, this State, where he became foreman in a mill and interested in the lumber industry. In this enterprise he has since been largely engaged, and during the flourishing days of the region he kept the Webster Hotel. In 1891 he removed to Belding, Ionia County, and opened a general store which was burnt out and he then came to Portland. His occupations here have been already mentioned. Besides his stock and personal property, Mr. Roell owns a fine farm.

In Sennett, N. Y., November 21, 1859, Mr. Roell was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Hewitt, an estimable lady who is a native of Canandaigua, N. Y., and to whom he and their children owe deep gratitude for their home comforts and the devotion of her life. To Mr. and Mrs. Roell eight sons and daughters have been born, of whom six are living, named respectively, Art C., Herbert, William, Louis, Carrie and Matie. The second son is now attending the Ypsilanti Business College, and Carrie is the wife of Herbert Dodge and lives in Morley, this State.

Art C. Roell was born in Elbridge, N. Y., July

23, 1862. An occupation to which he devoted his time in early life was packing shingles and he afterward learned telegraphy, to which he still gives his attention. He has been an operator on the line of the Detroit, Lansing & Milwaukee Railroad, and he is now manager of the Michigan postal telegraph and cable lines. He also has an important part in the control of the Welch House. His wife was known in her maidenhood as Miss L. May Headley, and they have one child, a daughter, Claytie, who is the pride of the entire household and the wonder of all who hear her elocutionary efforts, as she shows a remarkable talent in that line.

Mr. Roell, subject of this sketch, is a social man, and takes an unusual degree of interest in the fraternal orders. He is connected with Masonry, Odd Fellowship, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Grand Army of the Republic. He claims to be a "Democrat to the backbone" and none who know him will gainsay this fact. In Montcalm County he was Justice of the Peace, with a good record as an officer. He and his family are gaining friends in their new home and no doubt will soon be as popular here as they have been elsewhere.



ALFRED R. ISHAM. This gentleman is one of the well-to-do farmers of Montcalm County and is also a member of the firm of Cross & Isham, proprietors of the Butternut cheese factory and a general store at Butternut. There is a fine market for the products of the factory and its reputation is constantly increasing, so that the output this year will be much larger than ever before. During the last year the factory produced sixty one thousand eight hundred pounds. The farm of Mr. Isham consists of two hundred and ten acres, in every part of which order and neatness prevail. It bears a complete line of farm buildings, including a large and substantial barn and one of the finest farm houses to be seen in the county. The dwelling was put up in 1890, is built of Owasso brick, contains ten large rooms and has three cellars.

The parents of our subject were A. D. and Mar-

garet (Whitacre) Isham, natives of New York and Vermont respectively, and members of the farming community. They were living in Ionia County, this State, when their son Alfred was born September 10, 1840. The lad lived on the home farm until the death of his mother, which occurred when he was eleven years old, and he then went to New York and spent some four years with relatives in Monroe and Ontario Counties. He obtained a good business education and after his return to this State he became well acquainted with agricultural work, as he aided his father in clearing land and raising crops. He has three brothers engaged in farming in Montcalm County and two living in Cleveland, Ohio—J. Frank being Vice-President in the firm of H. M. Brainerd & Co., and Dr. J. S., a physician who was graduated from Bellevue College and Hospital, New York.

October 16, 1862, Mr. Isham was married to Miss Mary L. Carey, whose former home was in the township she has continued to reside in. The marriage has been blessed by the birth of two children—J. Frank, born June 23, 1866, and Willie, born September 19, 1873. Both sons are at home and Willie does the book-keeping for the firm of Cross & Isham. They have been given good educations and the parents have taken great interest in their progress and in further fitting them for the battle of life by instilling into their minds good principles of conduct.

In recalling his early experiences Mr. Isham does not forget that along with privation and hardship he had many pleasures, and he often says that the people in a new settlement are more social and friendly than in populous localities. Upon his place is a sugar camp of three hundred trees, from which sugar and syrup for the use of the family are made. When Mr. Isham was making the initial improvements on his property he was in the habit of chopping and logging during the winter and whenever his farm work would allow, and slowly but surely he made room for larger fields and better crops. He has held various minor offices, has served on the School Board, and was Township Supervisor one year. The vote he casts is a Republican one.

In the winter of 1864 Mr. Isham entered the

army as a member of Company E, Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, Col. D. M. Fox. He had two brothers in the same regiment. He was present at the siege of Knoxville, took part in the battles of the Wilderness, Cold Harbor and Spottsylvania Court House, and aided in the siege of Petersburg, where he witnessed the blowing up of the fort. He was present at the surrender of General Lee and took part in the Grand Review at Washington, and remained in the capital nearly all summer. He was discharged July 26, 1865, but did not reach home until September, as he could not get transportation before.



ALFORD SHIRES owns the largest body of land that is held by one individual in Day Township, Montcalm County. It consists of thirteen hundred and sixty acres on sections 25, 26 and 27, of which three hundred and twenty acres are improved. There are three dwelling houses and two barns on the place and various minor structures, and it is not without orchards and other adornments that add to its remunerativeness as well as to its beauty. Mr. Shires has one hundred and fifty acres of grain and hay land, and raises good grades of cattle and sheep, his flock averaging one hundred head. The tilled land is watered by Fish Creek and is fertile and adapted for either grain or stock purposes. The tract of land he owns was formerly the Grand Haven Lumber Company's property. Mr. Shires is a partner of Heath & Sherman, the widely-known lumber men of this region.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Michael Shires, a native of Germany, who located on a farm near Danville, Pa., after his emigration and died there. His son William was born on the farm and took up his father's calling in the same county, and he too passed away in the Keystone State. William Shires married Phoebe Bond, a native of the State and a life-long resident there. She and her husband belonged to the Baptist Church, and the latter was a Deacon. They reared five children, of whom Alford is next to the eldest.

Alford Shires was born near Danville, Montour County, Pa., September 26, 1849, and grew to manhood on the farm owned by his father. He attended the district school and learned useful lessons at home, and when his father died he was able to carry on the farm to quite good advantage. He was about of age when the place came into his hands, and he remained upon it until the spring of 1873, when he came West. Arriving in this State he sought employment and found it with the Cutler & Savage Lumber Company at Spring Lake. He began at the bottom of the ladder in the new business, making plank road, and advanced to trimming the saw, tail sawing, and so on until he became head sawyer. For six years he was head sawyer and he also learned to hammer the saws.

In 1883 Mr. Shires came to Day Township and bought the tract of fourteen hundred and forty acres, the most of which he now owns. He at once located on it and began making improvements, and during the winter months worked for the Grand Haven Lumber Company, scaling logs, etc., until they completed the job they were engaged at. He has sold off eighty acres, and is rapidly placing the rest under cultivation. His fortunes have been shared since October 29, 1879, by a true-hearted wife whose maiden name was Jennie Heath. She is a daughter of Le Roy Heath, of whom further mention is made in the sketch of V. S. Heath, on another page in this ALBUM. She is the eldest of four children, was born within sight of Rockford, Ill., February 1, 1859, and reared in Ottawa County, Mich. Her education was obtained in the district schools, principally in Spring Lake Township where her years of maidenhood were spent, but she has gained culture from sources outside the school room, and is refined as well.

The happy marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Shires has been further blessed to them in the birth of two children—Glenn and Florence I. Both husband and wife belong to the Baptist Church at Stanton and Mrs. Shires is connected with the Ladies Aid Society. Mrs. Shires is a member of the Odd Fellows' Lodge at Spring Lake, and always deposits a Republican ballot when the national issues are being considered. Husband and wife are "given to hospitality," dispense their means liberally when

any worthy movement calls for their sympathy, and display such qualities of mind and heart as win the esteem of those who know them.



EDWIN R. BANTON. It is thirty years since Mr. Banton settled in this State and almost that period has elapsed since he became a resident of Montcalm County and of that part of Bloomer Township where he is now to be found. He has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, all under cultivation or used for pasturage and the minor work connected with farm life, except a timber tract of twenty-four acres. The woodland contains a fine sugar camp of eight hundred trees, but this is rarely worked. The buildings that now stand upon the property are comfortable and substantial, and include everything that is needful in carrying on the work to which Mr. Banton gives his attention. He is especially interested in fine stock and prides himself on the good horses and cattle and pure-bred hogs on his place.

Mr. Banton is a son of the Pine Tree State, having been born in La Grange County, Me., June 2, 1836. His father, Joseph B. Banton, was born in Manchester, England, and was a seafaring man during his earlier life. He was captain of a vessel on the Atlantic and when he abandoned the sea he became a farmer. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Sophronia Ranlet and was born in Maine. The son had good schooling until he was fourteen years old, but from that time he went in winters until he was of age, paying his board by work—as he began life for himself. His father was highly educated and encouraged and aided his son in improving his mind.

In the fall of 1857 young Banton came to this State and made his home in Ionia. There he followed various pursuits for a livelihood until November, 1864, when he came to Montcalm County and set up his home in the midst of the forest. He built a log cabin 11x14 feet, in which he lived about twelve years. In the mean-



S J Mosher

time he was working hard to hew down the trees that surrounded it, remove the stumps and fit the land for cultivation. He went to Ionia and Hubbardston for his supplies and to sell produce when he began to raise more than he used, and there he was obliged to have his milling done. Mr. Banton has paid considerable attention to raising clover seed and has threshed as much as two hundred bushels from thirty acres of land.

March 1, 1864, Mr. Banton was married to Miss Samantha Holcomb, at that time a resident of Ionia County, but a native of New York. She was reared in this State, became well informed, and understands how to make a cozy home and discharge the duties she owes to her family and friends. She has considerable property in Carson City, owning a number of lots there and a handsome residence. Mr. and Mrs. Banton have two children—Ella J., born August 10, 1865, and now the wife of George A. Smith, a shingle-maker at Lake View; and George R., born May 24, 1873, and now attending school in Carson City.

In all public enterprises Mr. Banton is among the most conspicuous and active workers in the locality in which he lives. He is a man of progressive ideas, takes an active interest in educational matters, and has seen that his own children enjoyed as good opportunities as came within his means. His daughter taught school in this county three terms, and his son is already well informed, though still a student. Mr. Banton votes the Republican ticket. He has held the various school offices and served as Highway Commissioner. He is a stockholder in the State Bank of Carson City, and has been a Director for two years.



LORAND J. MOSHER. Among the enterprising farmers of Ionia County is the gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page, and whose present estate has been brought to a fine condition by his own efforts. When he settled on section 20, Ronald Township, in the year 1859, he found a clearing of five acres and a log house on the tract of land

he had bought. The first one hundred and sixty acres cost him \$2,600, it being covered with heavy timber that was considered quite valuable. This has been removed and the acreage extended so that the estate now consists of two hundred and forty acres, with one hundred and eighty under cultivation. The farm buildings include every necessary and convenient structure, among them being three barns, used respectively for sheep, horses and cattle. The largest of these is 36x44 feet. The family dwelling is a two-story frame, the west upright, 18x29 feet, and the east upright 18x28 feet; a one-story wing extends toward the south. There are eight rooms on the first floor and nine on the second.

The family history states that the Mosher family was established in America by three brothers who emigrated from England, and that there is a large estate in the mother country due to the heirs. Two of the brothers mentioned had families and from one of these our subject is descended. Grandfather Mosher, whose given name was James, was born in New York and followed farming. His son William was born and reared in the Empire State, learned the trade of a millwright and also worked at furniture-making. He spent the latter part of his life in farming. In Otsego County, N. Y., he married Samantha Laurence, who was born and reared in New York. In that county Mr. Mosher was engaged in milling, but upon removing to Madison County he turned to farming. After a few years he went to St. Lawrence County, and in 1830 left that locality for Michigan. He took a boat at Ogdensburg and after landing at Detroit continued his journey with a team.

William Mosher located in Royal Oak Township, Oakland County, on an unimproved farm and labored for the development of the land until December, 1836, when he removed to Clinton County. There again he took possession of unimproved land and once more took up the work necessary to subdue it. He remained there until 1845, from which time until his death he made his home with our subject. He died in June, 1849, and his wife survived until August, 1855. Their children were Lucy, Laura, Lorand J., Laurence,

Janson B., Louisa, Lyman D. and Locke V. Those now living are our subject, Lyman D. and Locke V.

The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch was born in Otsego County, N. Y., on the Burlington Flats, November 4, 1824. He was about eight years old when he came to this State and in Oakland County he completed his schooling. His first studies had been carried on in a log school-house in his native State. He remained with his parents until his marriage, after which they became inmates of his dwelling, and he continued to aid in their support as he had previously done. He was married in Ionia County in 1848, to Miss Lucretia Bovee, a native of New York, who died June 20, 1868. The union has been blest by the birth of five children—William M., Chloe M., Alice S., Harriet and George Irving.

March 23, 1870, Mr. Mosher made a second matrimonial alliance, wedding Miss Sarah E. Kellogg. This lady was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., July 19, 1829, and was nine years old when she left her native place and accompanied her parents to Michigan. Her mother, Lydia (Post) Kellogg, a native of Vermont, died August 23, 1839. Her father, Jonathan Kellogg, who was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., breathed his last March 9, 1871.

Mr. Mosher has done good service to the traveling public while acting in the capacity of Highway Commissioner. He was Postmaster at Albion in 1858. He takes an intelligent interest in political questions and since he cast his first vote for John Charles Fremont has been identified with the Republican party.



WILLIAM W. MCKUNE, a prominent citizen of McBride, Montcalm County, is engaged in the real-estate and insurance business. He is also Justice of the Peace and is now proprietor of the Cottage Hotel in that village. He bears an honorable record of service for his country in the navy during the Civil War, and both he and his wife are highly esteemed and beloved in the community. The father of

our subject, Dr. David W. McKune, was born in Orange County, N. Y., of Scotch parentage, his father having come to this country in the early years of his married life. He settled first in Orange County, N. Y., and ten years later he removed to McKean County, Pa., where he did a large business in the manufacture of lumber at the headwaters of the Allegheny River. Later in life he removed to Wood County, W. Va.; there he resided on a large tract of land owned by him until his death, at the venerable age of ninety-nine years and eight months.

Dr. McKune was a graduate of medicine in a New York college. He practiced in both Pennsylvania and West Virginia, but mostly in Wood County in the latter State. As he was then residing over the lines in Rebeldom he was obliged to serve as surgeon for a little while in the Rebel army but somewhat later he enlisted in the Union army in the Second West Virginia Cavalry. In this he served as Surgeon until the close of the war. The mother of our subject was Hannah Conklin. She was also of Scotch parentage and the daughter of a successful lumber manufacturer in Warren County, Pa. She died in that State in 1878.

The subject of this sketch is the second eldest in a family of seven children; he was born October 6, 1848, near Bradford, McKean County, Pa. Here he took advantage of the district schools and when less than fifteen years of age enlisted in September, 1862, in the United States Navy. He was placed in the Mississippi squadron on the dispatch boat "Victoria" No. 33. He also served for awhile on the monitor "Neosha" and the flag ship "Moose". A part of the time he was a coxswain of the gig. He was active in the engagements at Nashville, Johnson, Ft. Henry, Ft. Donelson, Franklin Roads, and various other naval battles. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge at Mound City, Ill., June 9, 1865, and returned to Pennsylvania, where this veteran (only eighteen years of age) engaged in the lumber business and took contracts to furnish ties for the New York & Erie Railroad. In those days he furnished from fifty thousand to one hundred thousand per year.

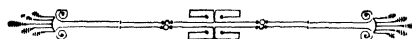
The Western fever now attacked the young man and in 1872 he went to Washington County, Neb.,

where he bought a farm near Blair and farmed it until the grasshoppers came and ate up his crops. He then entered once more upon the business of a builder and contractor in Blair. Later he went to Omaha and pursued the same line of work for two years. He was successful in his business but decided to go upon a ranch twelve miles north of Omaha, which belonged to Dr. Kaufman. Here for two years he superintended the ranch and engaged in raising fine stock and horses. In 1878 he returned to Omaha and for two years carried on building and contracting. He then returned to Michigan and located in McBride, where he has done the principal business in building since that time. About three years ago he added to his interests that of handling real estate and collecting. He is also agent for the Phoenix Insurance Company at Hartford and manager of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company at McBride. Since 1889 he has been proprietor of the Cottage Hotel.

The cultured and refined lady who presides over the home of Mr. McKune became his wife on Christmas Day, 1871, in McKean County, Pa. Her name was Mary H., daughter of Heil Atkins. Her grandfather was an early settler in that county where he was a manufacturer of lumber but removed before his death to Chautauqua County, N. Y. Her father pursued the same line of business and in 1860 established a shingle factory at Elk Rapids, Mich., which he carried on for eight years, after which he returned to Pennsylvania. In 1872 he removed to Washington County, Neb., and settled upon a farm from which he retired after awhile and resided in Omaha until his death. Mrs. McKune's grandfather Foster was one of the early settlers in her native county and after him the township of Foster Brook was named. He was a very prominent man, was a soldier in the War of 1812 and lived to be nearly ninety years of age. His daughter, Susan (Foster) Atkins, the mother of the wife of our subject still resides in Omaha.

William W. McKune is the second in a family of eight children and was born in Bradford Township, McKean County, Pa., December 25, 1855. He and his good wife are the happy parents of three children: Fred who lives at Hot Springs, Ark., and Pearl and William who reside at home. The sub-

ject of this sketch helped to incorporate the village of McBride, and its citizens have placed him at different times in almost every municipal office. For four years he was the President of the village and is now Justice of the Peace. He is Commander of the McCook Post, No. 94, G. A. R., at McBride. He is an earnest temperance man and has held various responsible offices in the Independent Order of Good Templars at McBride and has been for three years District Chief Templar. He is the Librarian of the Day Township Library and President of the Farmers' Alliance. He took the census of the township in 1890. His wife is an earnest and consistent member of the Baptist Church. Mr. McKune has been most of his life connected with the Republican party until 1866 when he voted and has since voted the Independent ticket.



WILLIAM WALLACE SAGE, a prominent resident of section 13, Easton Township, Ionia County, is a native of Ontario, Canada, and was born December 9, 1836. He is a son of David Sage, who was born in Ontario, Canada, March 26, 1806, and whose parents were both natives of New York State, his father Allen Sage having served in the Revolutionary War when only sixteen years of age. The mother of our subject, Mary (Hawley) Sage, died March 17, 1884.

The father of our subject was reared to manhood in Canada. He attended the primitive schools of his native county, and improved to his best ability the log-cabin education of the day. He was trained up in the industries of agricultural life and acquired the sturdy habits of an honest country boy. June 17, 1829 he was married to Mary, daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Raimond) Hawley. Her maternal ancestors were Scotch and her paternal line was of English blood. By their union there were born nine children, four of whom are living: William W., Daniel, David; and the Rev. Edwy R., a minister of the Christian Church. David Sage brought his family to Michigan in 1855 and settled on his present farm in Ionia County. He had purchased ninety acres of land at the rate of \$23 per acre.

About thirty acres of it was partially cleared. He is one of the venerable and time-honored pioneers of the township, and is a man of influence in the Republican party and the Methodist Episcopal Church. His married life with the wife of his youth extended over more than half a century and was a source of unflinching joy and comfort. Mrs. Sage was deeply mourned when called away from earth by her family, her church and the community.

The life of William W. Sage since 1855 when he came with his father to Ionia County, has been principally spent in agricultural pursuits. He was married December 22, 1867, to Mary A. Wilson, a native of Michigan whose natal day was August 29, 1848. She is a daughter of Moses and Eliza (Goodwin) Wilson. Her father was a native of Maine and her mother of Ohio. Her parents came with their family of eight children to Ronald Township, Ionia County, in 1865. They were Spiritualists in religion. The father died in Ronald Township, August 22, 1881.

One daughter, Ida A., brightens the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sage. She came to them on Christmas Day, 1870. Mr. Sage is a Democrat in his political views and is wide-awake to the best interests of the township. He has served on the Board of Review of Easton Township. He and his good wife are both active members of society. For years he has been the delegate from the township to various county Democratic conventions.

The parents of Mrs. Sage were early settlers in Michigan. The mother was but two years old when she came to Macomb County, and afterwards made her home in St. Clair County. The father removed with his parents when three years old to the State of Vermont, where he remained until he was sixteen years old. He then left home and started out for himself and finally drifted to Michigan, where he met his future wife and started his own home life. To this couple were born ten children, eight of whom are living, namely: Alfred, Ira, Mary A.; Phœba, wife of Peleg Blaubelt; Eliza, wife of Charles Joslyn; Otis; Loretta, wife of John Bailey; Leonora, wife of Cornelius Gilmore. The two children who died were Charles the youngest, and William who was killed in the Civil War. Three brothers of this family served in the army

at that time. Ira was only sixteen years old when he enlisted, and the eldest son, Alfred was also one who served his country.

The subject of this sketch always takes a sincere and lively interest, not only in the local politics of Easton Township, but in those of Ionia County as well. He ranks among the solid voters and supporters of the Democratic party, and keeps abreast with the most advanced men in his party. The Sage family is truly classed among the typical and representative pioneer families of the far-famed Grand River Valley. Our ALBUM would be indeed incomplete without reference to our subject and his venerable father, David Sage.



OSCAR P. HENDEE. This honored veteran of the late war is numbered among the agriculturists of Ionia County, being the owner of a good farm in Portland Township. The property is well improved in every respect, the acreage being thoroughly tilled and a full line of necessary buildings having been erected upon it, and such arrangements made for the raising of vegetables and fruit as belong to the estate of one who believes in home comfort and sees the value of minor products among his crops. Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Hendee has been deprived of his strong right arm, he has cleared over one hundred acres of his farm, which was once heavy woodland.

Mr. Hendee was born near Pontiac, this State, August 21, 1839, and being the son of a farmer his early life was spent in the customary manner, his time being divided between farm work and study in the district school. His parents, W. B. and Rosetta Sophia (Potter) Hendee, were natives of the Green Mountain State, whence they went to New York immediately after their marriage. They came to Michigan during the early days and here they spent the remainder of their lives. He of whom we write remained under the parental roof until after troops were called for to defend the life of the Nation, when he decided to enter the army.

September 13, 1861, the name of Private O. P.

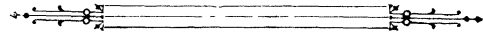
Hendee, was placed on the muster roll of Company I, Eighth Michigan Infantry, his enlistment taking place in Shiawassee County. He went into camp at Detroit, but almost immediately left for the South, joining Gen. Burnside's command at Beaufort, S. C. He was in the expedition commanded by Gen. Sherman, that went to Hilton Head and received the surrender of that post. The first real fighting he took part in was at Port Royal, January 1, 1862. He was slightly wounded in an engagement in June, but was treated in the regimental hospital, and was a participant in every conflict in which his regiment took part, numbering over a score. At Williamson Island he was slightly wounded in the left shoulder, but only went back to the Division hospital and ere long was with the troops again. He was promoted to the various offices from Corporal up to First Lieutenant, for which his commission dated from the Battle of the Wilderness. In the action at Weldon Railroad, August 19, 1864, he lost his right arm, or rather received a wound from a minie ball that necessitated its amputation. He reported back for duty in January and was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant, his commission to date from April 25, 1865. He was mustered out of the service in August, with his regiment, and returned to the farm which he had bought while in the army.

Lieut. Hendee devoted himself to the improvement of his property and to the cultivation of its soil until October, 1866, when he accepted a commission as Second Lieutenant in the Eighteenth United States Regulars, and served as such until transferred to the Thirty-sixth as First Lieutenant. His duty was to act as guard to the workmen and supply trains on the Union Pacific Railroad, then in process of construction. While with the regiment one hundred and eighty-one of its members were killed by Indians. He was in the service about a twelvemonth, but he then resigned and returned to his family, which at that time consisted of a wife and infant daughter.

Mr. Hendee was married November 26, 1865, to Rosa E. Cronkhite, daughter of Abram and Arzilla Cronkhite. Mrs. Hendee is an intelligent, energetic lady with a fine character. Her happy union has been blest by the birth of four children—

Ida M., Lillie M., Ethel and Lee W., none of whom have yet left the shelter of the parental roof. The eldest daughter was graduated from the Portland High School in the class of 1887 and has since been engaged in teaching. For the past two years she has been employed in the Portland public school, where she is meeting with good success in her efforts to impart knowledge.

For twelve years past Mr. Hendee has served as Justice of the Peace and his decisions are generally approved of. He belongs to John McGary Post, G. A. R., at Portland, and is also identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he has always been a staunch Republican. He is in receipt of a pension of \$30 per month as some compensation for the loss of his arm on a Southern battlefield. Mrs. Hendee and her daughter Ida belong to the Congregational Church at Portland. The family have high standing in society and enjoy the friendship of the best people of the county.



DR. ROBERT J. HUMPHREY. This name is well known in Ionia, Ionia County, which city has been the home of its bearer some thirty years. During this time he has been engaged in the practice of dentistry, in which field of work he has an excellent reputation. Having studied medicine as well, he has made a specialty of the treatment of cancers, and hundreds of those terrible tumors have been removed by him, his treatment being very successful. This one fact alone would be sufficient to give him prominence, and when it is joined to a knowledge of his other acquirements and high degree of public spirit it will be understood that he is quite an influential citizen.

The parents of Dr. Humphrey were natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania and the first few years of their wedded life were spent in the latter State in Beaver County. The father, Harrison Humphrey, was a merchant tailor. He died of yellow fever, having gone South when our subject was seven years old. The mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Johnston, still survives,

The children of the parental family were four in number, but two are deceased. The survivors are Joseph L., a resident of Bluffton, Ind., and he of whom we speak.

In Beaver County, Pa., June 3, 1832, Dr. Humphrey was born, but during his childhood his parents removed to the Western Reserve in Ohio. He was just entering his teens when he went to Indiana and in the Hoosier State he finished his education and spent six years as a medical student with Dr. Schell at Montpelier. He also took dentistry and was associated with Dr. Benedict in practice at Mendon, St. Joseph County, this State. In 1860 he came to Ionia where his work has been so successful that he has become the owner of an elegant property and made provision for his future needs.

In 1852 Dr. Humphrey was married to Miss Margaret Porter, of Ohio, who had charge of his home until 1866, when death claimed her. She left three children—Flora E., Emma J. and Wilbur E. The son is a dentist and associated with his father in business. Emma married W. E. Thomas, removed to Oakland, Cal., and there died in March, 1891. She left a daughter, Maud, and husband. The present wife of Dr. Humphrey bore the maiden name of Mary E. Hall; their wedded life began in 1876.

In his political affiliations Dr. Humphrey is a Democrat. He served as Alderman until he declined to fill the place longer, and he is Chairman of the Ionia Board of Health. He belongs to the Royal Arcanum and Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has passed all the Chairs in the latter organization, including encampment, and has been District Deputy Grand Master of Lodge No. 175.



ORLANDO J. KNAPP. The prosperity of all cities is due to their dealers, especially those who handle the great staples, and it is therefore with pleasure that the publishers of this ALBUM present to its readers the histories of the business men of Howard City, Montcalm County. Among the foremost, both in the magnitude of his operations and the standing he has in the commu-

nity, is the gentleman named above, who keeps a full line of staple and fancy groceries and provisions, and also handles tobacco and cigars. He has a wide-spread and extensive trade, buys in large quantities and so secures discounts that are shared with his patrons. Liberality and careful regard for the interests of his customers characterize his policy.

Mr. Knapp was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and is the only surviving child of Isaac P. and Margaret (Chase) Kuapp, whose family numbered seven sons and daughters. Both lines of ancestry were English. The father was a carpenter and joiner and also a farmer, and the son was reared amid rural scenes and influences. He secured a good education, the schools of the time (he having been born January 3, 1838) being such as to afford facilities for practical instruction. When nineteen years old he went to Indiana, where he worked at whatever his hands found to do, willing to enter upon any honest employment and determined to make his living.

The continuance of the struggle between the nation and the Southern States led Mr. Knapp to enter the army, and August 16, 1862, saw him signing the roll and assignment to Company B, Twelfth Indiana Infantry. The fourth day after he was mustered in he was taking part in a battle at Richmond, Ky., and he was so unfortunate as to be taken prisoner. He and his comrades in misfortune were paroled after four days' confinement, during which period their rations were a single hardtack each day. When released Mr. Knapp went to Indianapolis and remained in the parole camp about two months, when he was exchanged and sent to Cairo, Ill. Thence the boys went to Memphis and on a campaign to Jackson, Miss., but after reaching that point fell back to Grand Junction, Tenn.

There the command went into winter quarters, and in the spring marched to Memphis and continued by boat to Vicksburg and up the Yazoo River to Haines Bluff, where they were in camp when Vicksburg was surrendered. They attacked Johnston at Black River and drove him to Jackson, which they captured and destroyed. They then returned to Memphis, and thence marched

through to Chattanooga and Knoxville with Grant's forces, and on to Scottsboro, Ala., which was their winter quarters. The ensuing spring was given to the Atlanta campaign, and after the capture of the city they followed Hood toward Nashville, where he was turned over by Gen. Sherman to the care of Gen. Thomas, and the regiment made an "about face" for Atlanta and thence marched to the sea.

At Savannah Capt. Perry's company was detailed as bodyguard to Gen. Logan and a part—among them our subject—went by water to Hilton Head, at which point the news of President Lincoln's assassination reached them. They next went to Newbern, then to Alexandria by water, and thence to Washington, D. C., to take part in the Grand Review. The Twelfth Indiana was the first regiment in the line as it passed headquarters. Its members were discharged June 8, 1865, and mustered out at Indianapolis.

After his release from the army duties he had faithfully discharged Mr. Knapp visited in the Hoosier and Empire States for a time, then gave his attention to the work of a traveling salesman and later to farming. In 1871 he came to this State and engaged in the lumber business at Pierson, but made his home in Howard City. Here he opened a grocery store in 1880, which was burnt out on New Year's Day, 1884. Mr. Knapp promptly rebuilt and re-engaged in trade. His present well-ordered establishment is a model one, equally deserving of praise for its fine assortment of goods, its neatness of arrangement and the correct methods that are followed in its control.

Mr. Knapp has been twice married, his first wife having been Miss Cordelia Edmunds, of New York State. Of this union there were born two children—James H. and Alvira H. The present Mrs. Knapp was formerly Miss Delight E. Nichols, and the wedding ceremony by which she was united to our subject took place in 1869. She is a careful housewife, a kind neighbor and an intelligent and social lady.

Mr. Knapp is now serving his third term as Township Treasurer, and has a record as Highway Commissioner seven years, besides having been a member of the village Council. His political alle-

giance is given to the Republican party. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a charter member of Post No. 252, known as J. T. Jones Post, at Howard City. He has been Post Commander and Quartermaster, and is one of the present trustees of the post. He is a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church, of which society he is a Trustee. He has always taken an active part in promoting the best interests of the city and is a popular member of society.



J WARREN PEAKE. This gentleman, who is a resident of Ionia, and whose name is well known in this and adjoining counties, traces his paternal ancestry to Connecticut, although his father, Russell Peake, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. In that county Martha Rider also was born, and after growing to womanhood became the wife of Russell Peake. They removed to Ohio in 1832, and in 1855 journeyed farther westward and located in Portland, this State. There Mr. Peake died December 24, 1861. His widow breathed her last in June, 1883, at the age of seventy-eight years. To them eleven children were born, seven now living, of whom our subject is the third in point of age. The others are George W., a retired farmer of Portland; Jeanette, wife of Enoch Rozelle, living in Cherry Vale, Kan.; Sarah, wife of S. Doremus, of Lake City, this State; Adeline, wife of Henry Van Sickles, residing in McCord; Jane, widow of Walter McCrum, of Eagle; and Royal L., a lumber dealer and farmer of Portland.

The subject of this brief biographical notice was born in Seneca County, Ohio, December 3, 1834, and was educated in the district schools and Heidelberg College at Tiffin, Ohio. His father being a farmer, he became skilled in farm work, and from the age of seventeen to twenty-one years he alternated farming and teaching. He then devoted four years to pedagogical work in Ionia County, Mich., and from that time until 1883 he divided his attention between agriculture and teaching. From 1882 to 1884 he also discharged the duties of TOWNI-

ship Supervisor, and at various times he was Clerk, Justice of the Peace, and School Inspector. In 1884 he was elected County Treasurer, and held the office four years. In 1889 he became Secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Ionia, Eaton and Barry Counties, and has built up the business considerably since he took hold of it.

The mental culture of Mr. Peake, and his thorough understanding of the risks of the farmers, give his words weight concerning the affairs of the insurance company, and qualify him to carry on its work satisfactorily. They also fit him for other positions, and he has been County Drainage Commissioner since 1889, and is a member of the Patrons of Industry. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows Encampment, Subordinate Lodge and Daughters of Rebecca, and is a charter member of the society of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Portland. He is a member of the City Council, representing the First Ward. In politics he is now a Democrat, was formerly a Republican, but he voted for Abraham Lincoln twice, and for Ulysses S. Grant once. He says that he would cheerfully repeat the first, but not the second.

The marriage of Mr. Peake and Miss Ann E. Lyon was solemnized February 24, 1856. The family born to them consists of Belle, Clarence W., Lynne L. and Russell A. The two younger children are still at home, but Clarence is farming in Danby Township, and Belle is the wife of Edward Martin, a farmer of that township. Mr. Peake has given his children good educations, and he and his wife endeavor in every way possible to promote their welfare, and they also take an interest in the good of their neighbors and acquaintances.



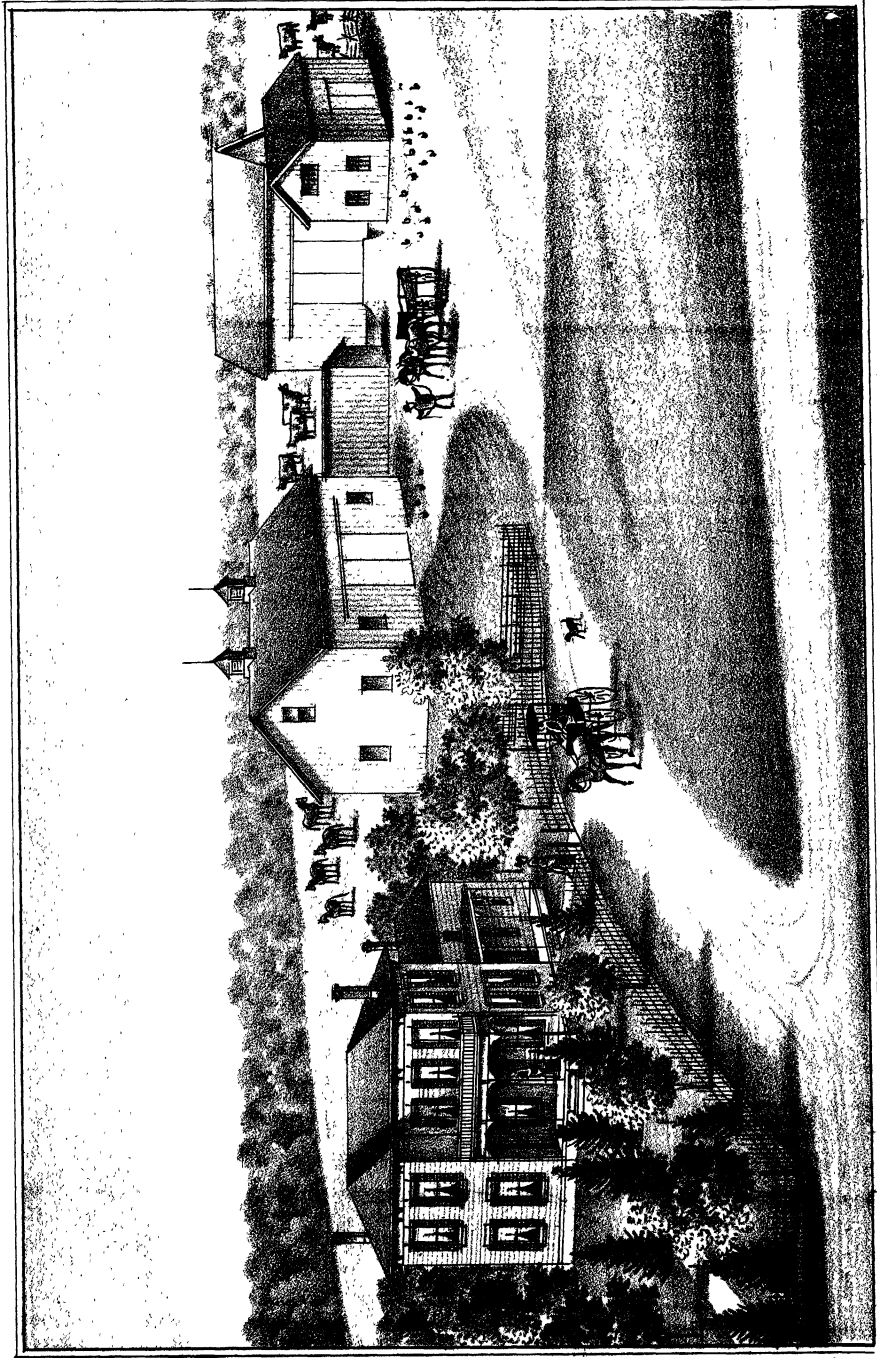
JEROME SAGENDORF, one of the earliest permanent settlers of Day Township, Montcalm County, is descended on both sides from families of German birth, and inherits robust strength and long life. He is a prosperous man and has put his place in excellent condition, having good buildings and every improvement upon it. His enterprise and public spirit as well

as his character for integrity bring him great influence in the community. His father was a native of Ulster County, N. Y., and his grandfather lived to be nearly one hundred years old. The father was a farmer in the town of Woodstock, N. Y., where he cleared and improved one hundred and forty acres of land and died at the age of eighty-seven years.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest of ten children of the parental family. He was born in Woodstock, N. Y., May 4, 1823, and early learned the practical details of farm work, alternating them with district school life. He has a good memory, and calls to mind many incidents of his early days, especially the circumstances connected with the Anti-Rent War. After he reached his majority, he went out for himself and worked a rented farm. In May, 1867, he came to Stanton, Mich., and engaged in various kinds of business until the following spring, when he located on the forty acres of land, where he now resides. It was solid timber and no roads had been laid out. He hauled lumber from Stanton to build his house, and had to bring all his provisions from that town. In those days he paid \$9 per hundred weight for flour. In the winters he engaged in teaming and logging.

Before leaving the East, the subject of our sketch had taken to himself a wife, Miss Betsey, daughter of Daniel Morse, who was born in Schoharie County, N. Y. She is descended from a family of early settlers in that county, and was of English ancestry. Her father was well educated, was a teacher when young, and in his mature years became land agent for what was known as "The Elvendorf Patent." He was also engaged in farming in Jefferson Township, and was a prominent man, a Township Supervisor and active in the Baptist Church. In his declining years he came to Michigan to spend them with his children, and died in the family of Mr. Sagendorf, October 10, 1890, at the advanced age of fourscore and six years. Mrs. Sagendorf was one of eight children, and was born in Jefferson Township, Schoharie County, N. Y., October 1, 1834. When eleven years old she came with the family to Ulster County, where she lived until her marriage, which took place February 28, 1856.

Our subject and his wife were the parents of five



RESIDENCE OF EDWARD MURPHY, SEC. 28. LYONS TP. IONIA CO MICH.

children: Willard, a farmer in Belvidere Township, this county; Ella, Mrs. Ely Kendall, of Belding Township; Cora, who died when a child; Edward, a mechanic of Belding; and Louie, who is at home. Mr. Sagendorf is an active helper in all public and educational matters, has helped to build all the schoolhouses in his district, and was for years Moderator of the School Board and Township Clerk for one year. He is a charter member of the Baptist Church at McBride, in which he holds the responsible position of Trustee. His wife is also actively engaged in church work, being Vice President of the Ladies' Aid Society. Mr. Sagendorf is a strong Republican of the bluest degree, and is a representative man in his party, being often appointed delegate to conventions.



EDWARD MURPHY. The publishers of this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM would fail in their purpose in presenting to their readers in Ionia County outlines of the lives of her most valued citizens were they to omit that of Edward Murphy of Lyons Township. The life of this gentleman does not present any wonderful episodes but may well be taken as a model of persistent industry, attachment to family and good use of the accumulations secured from time to time. Mr. Murphy was born in County Dublin, Ireland, December 10, 1821, and was the eldest in a family of thirteen children. His parents, James and Mary (Howard) Murphy, spent their entire lives in the Emerald Isle.

The boyhood and youth of Mr. Murphy was passed in his native place, where he worked on a farm until some time after he had passed his twenty-first birthday. The tales he had heard of the advantages which accrued to industrious people who sought fortune in the New World, led him to save in order to make a trial of its resources. He crossed to Canada in 1847 and worked there a month for \$5 with which to continue his journey into the States. He then went to Rochester, N. Y. and found employment in the country near, working on a farm by the month. In 1854 he came to

Michigan, reaching Ionia via the stage from Detroit, and here again he became a farm hand, working by the month. For the first year his devoted wife worked in a private family by the week, and they then built a little shanty in Lyons village and made it their home.

Mr. Murphy did whatever his hands found to do by which he could maintain himself and wife and she managed carefully with their scanty income, so that by degrees they were able to lay aside a little fund. They built a much better house and finally in 1865, took possession of the farm that is still their home and now is as fine a place as need be. It consists of one hundred and forty acres on section 28 and is a well-regulated farm in every respect. Its fertile and generous fields give little indication of the days of hard and wearying toil that were spent by Mr. Murphy in cutting down the trees, removing the logs and underbrush and breaking the soil. There had not been a tree cut on the place when he came here and he had to begin at the foundation in preparing the land for crops and in making the improvements which he desired.

The wife of Mr. Murphy was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary A. Randall. She was born in Burlington, Vt., October 2, 1831, but reared in New York to which she accompanied her parents when she was but six years old. She is the eldest of six sons and daughters born to Harmon and Esther (Card) Randall, by whom she was carefully reared and fitted for life's duties. Her marriage was solemnized April 16, 1855, and has been blessed by the birth of two daughters and two sons—James A., Edwin A., Emma M. and Nellie. Edwin, who is a graduate of the Lansing College, is Principal in the school at Muir and was elected County Superintendent of Schools June 22, 1891, for a term of two years. Emma is teaching in the grammar department in Pewano. The younger daughter is at home.

Mr. Murphy's dwelling is a two-story frame house, the main body being square, but having an "L" which relieves the design of monotony and adds to the convenience of the rooms. It is very well built and furnished with the most substantial and tasteful furniture, and one of its most appreciated features is an upright piano, from which

sweet music is drawn by Miss Nellie. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy possess the soul of hospitality, and, having won their home by hard work, take great delight in enjoying it now. They have reason to be proud of the place, and they gather under their roof many friends who rejoice with them in their prosperity and thoroughly appreciate their social qualities and agreeable dispositions.

The first money earned by Mr. Murphy beyond that which was necessary for his subsistence was sent to Ireland to enable a sister to reach America. He also sent for a brother and a second sister, and as long as his aged father and mother lived, a part of his earnings were set aside for their support. He thus had heavier expenses than many a young man who starts out in life without capital, but was determined never to give up so long as he had strength to work, and his reward has come in financial success as well as in the sense of duty done. Mr. Murphy is a strong Democrat.

A lithographic view of Mr. Murphy's place is presented in connection with this sketch.



AUSTIN BARBER. The citizens of Howard City, Montcalm County, take a commendable pride in her business houses and in the character of the men who own and control them, and every increase in prosperity is greeted as an additional credit to the place. Among the prominent dealers of the city is Mr. Barber, who has been selling furniture here for some years and more recently added to his stock in trade, queensware, books and stationery. He has a well-filled establishment, conducts his affairs in accordance with the best and most honorable principles of finance, and reaps a due reward for his planning and labor.

The Barbers came originally from England, and the State of Maine was the former home of the family. The father of our subject, Marvin S. Barber, was born in New York, and from that State came to Michigan, taking up his residence in Hillsdale County as one of the first settlers of Litchfield Township. There he was married in July 1838, to

Miss Mary Woods, who was left a widow with four children, when our subject was but two years old. The other members of the parental family are: Charles, who died in Ann Arbor in 1875; George E., a grocer in Stanton; and Helen E., wife of Lewis W. Wilbur, of Howard City. The mother, who is now in this city, was born in Pennsylvania.

Austin Barber was born in Hillsdale County, September 23, 1849, and his boyhood days were passed upon a farm. At the age of nineteen years he entered the High School in Ann Arbor, and was graduated in 1868, after which he took up a classical course in the State University and received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1872. He turned his attention to pedagogy, and so well did he succeed as a teacher, and so ripe grew his scholarship that his Alma Mater bestowed upon him the degree of Master of Arts in 1876. His first position was as Principal of the public schools in Ludington in 1872-73, and from that place he went to Caro, Tuscola County, the following year. At the latter point he remained four years and he then gave up the profession and entered upon a business career, establishing himself in Howard City. In 1886 he increased his stock by the additions before mentioned, and in 1887 he opened a furniture store in Stanton, which he still carries on in connection with the one in Howard City.

On August 16, 1874, the rites of wedlock were solemnized between Mr. Barber and Miss Eva M. Carpenter, daughter of Russell Carpenter, of Potsdam, N. Y. She was graduated from the State Normal School of New York, and became First Assistant in the High School in Caro, this State. She is refined as well as educated, and has the tastes that fit her for sympathy in the chosen pursuits of her husband, and for usefulness in the community. The union has been blessed by the birth of two children, named respectively, Maude E. and Floyd A.

Mr. Barber has held various positions of local trust, especially those that are connected with educational affairs. He is a member of the village Board, is Chairman of the Board of School Inspectors, and for ten years has been a member of the School Board. He votes with the Republican party. His religious faith is expressed in the creed of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, and practiced in his daily life. A polished, cultured gentleman, with cordial manners and a character above reproach, Mr. Barber merits and receives the respect and goodwill of his associates, and enjoys an enviable reputation. He has a marked taste for literature, and his leisure moments are given to perusal of the works of the best writers of ancient and modern times.



EDWIN WHITE. For well-nigh half a century this gentleman has been a resident of Ionia County and during the greater part of this time he has been connected with the affairs of Portland Township in such a way as to advance its standing among the districts of the State. He was born in Genesee County, N. Y., August 11, 1852, and is of Irish and Dutch ancestry, his grandfathers having settled respectively in New York and New Jersey. His parents were James and Jane (Van Riper) White, who lived in Portland, Mich., from 1842 until death. The father was a chairmaker and painter and at the same occupations the son worked until he was twenty years old. The date of the father's decease was 1860 and that of the mother took place five years later.

When he abandoned the occupations to which he had been reared, young White turned his attention to farming and for two years worked by the month. He then bought thirty acres of land and while boarding with his mother and only sister he cultivated the tract. Early in the year 1863 he married, and soon after traded his land for the property on which he now lives, paying a difference of \$1,300. His new estate consisted of seventy-five acres on section 19, Portland Township. The bride said she would give her husband eight years in which to get a new house, but she extended the usual "days of grace" two years, and the handsome residence they now occupy well repaid them for waiting. The dwelling is conveniently arranged, sufficiently commodious for the wants of the family, and is well furnished and tastefully adorned. Other substantial buildings have been put up by Mr. White, and his property has greatly increased

in value since he became the owner. He carries on general farming, but pays much attention to the wool industry, in which he has been very successful, always keeping fine-wool sheep.

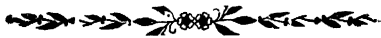
The date of the marriage of Edwin White and Emily Morehouse was February 4, 1863. The bride, a daughter of Oliver and Susan (Farrand) Morehouse, had been for a short time successfully engaged in teaching. Of the union four children have been born—Nathan, Nellie, Susie and Mary. Two died in infancy, Nathan and Nellie; and Susie in the dawn of womanhood at the age of seventeen years, the date of her demise being December 28, 1887. Mary attended the district school until fourteen years of age, then completed a three years' course in the High School at Portland, and was graduated in the class of 1882. This was supplemented by a two years' English course at Ypsilanti, where she received a second diploma. Her object was to devote herself to teaching and she has spent one year in professional work in Portland and several terms in the district schools near home, but owing to the death of her sister, the course of her life was greatly changed. She has been successful as a teacher and given promise of rising to a high position in the profession were she to follow it. She has devoted some attention to music.

The parents of Mrs. White were born in New York and New Jersey respectively, and lived in the latter State until 1835. They then came to Wayne County Mich., with their family of six children, making the journey principally by water. Mr. Morehouse was a shoemaker and worked at his trade most of his life, his sons doing the principal part of the farming after they came to this State. He lived to be nearly ninety-two years old, ending his days under the roof of our subject, July 9, 1887. The mother of Mrs. White had died many years before, the date of her decease being January 28, 1855. Mr. Morehouse was a volunteer in the War of 1812 and was honorably discharged near the close of the war and during his later days received a pension.

The family of which Mr. White made one originally included three brothers and one sister. Of the sister, Mary White, who died in 1862 much might be said, as she was a teacher for years and

did much good in her calling. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, devoted to its interests, and desired to continue her contributions to its enterprises. She had invested a part of her earnings in a small flock of sheep, and before her death she requested her brother Edwin to keep them and each year to donate for her to the Missionary Society at Portland the value of one fleece. Twenty-eight times has this donation been made, and though almost three decades have passed since she was laid to rest, she still lives in her example of practical benevolence.

Mr. White has been a Republican since the Civil War and is unfaltering in his allegiance to the principles of the party. He has never been an aspirant for official honors, being satisfied with the position of School Director in which he served for twelve years. He has for many years been a Deacon and Trustee in the Congregational Church at Portland, and the entire family, including the aged father-in-law, belong to that society. The deceased daughter of Mr. and Mrs. White was also a member.



BOWLAND SOULE is one of the early pioneers of Bushnell Township, Montcalm County, and has ever been one of the most prominent and useful members of rural society in that vicinity ever being active in promoting the best interests of the township. He was born in Albany County, N. Y., December 8, 1815, and is the son of Benjamin and Susannah (Norton) Soule, both natives of the same State. The first seventeen years of our subject's life were spent in New York; after that he went to Susquehanna County, Pa., where he resided for three years and then with his father returned to the State of New York. He was only seven years old when deprived of a mother's care and he had almost no educational advantages. By his own efforts he has acquired enough learning to attend properly to his business.

When his mother died the little boy went to live with his uncle, Benjamin Norton, of New York, and remained there until he was seventeen years

old working on a farm. At the age of twenty years his father removed on a farm in Ontario County. His marriage took place, June 6, 1839. He was then united to Harriet Conklin of Broome County, N. Y., who was born in 1820, the daughter of Lawrence Conklin, a New York farmer and Samantha (Heath) Conklin. Mr. Conklin lived to the good old age of ninety years.

Mr. and Mrs. Soule have had four children, Edward H., born July 11, 1840; Susannah, June 22, 1842; Charles W., March 1, 1855; Ceresster, August 22, 1858. This last son died July 4, 1874, at the age of sixteen years. Mr. Soule came to Michigan in 1846 and settled first in Lenawee County. Afterward he left his farm there and in the fall of 1854 came to Bushnell Township. He cut his own road through woods to the place where he decided to settle and built a little log cabin. He at one time had two hundred acres but has now given away to his children all but eighty acres. They lived well in those days and had an abundance of venison and wild game, and wild berries. He early stocked his farm with good stock and had at that time four head of cows, besides horses and hogs. They cleared off a little patch of ground and soon had good crops. The first season he made one thousand pounds of maple sugar. He lived in friendly relations with the Indians and had no disturbance from them. Three or four years after their coming they established a schoolhouse on their place. In this rude building they held delightful religious services and attended to the necessary business of the school district.



STEPHEN L. ELLSWORTH was born in Steuben County, N. Y., May 7, 1839, being the son of Arthur and Phebe (Smith) Ellsworth. His early life was spent in obscurity upon the farm of his father, and he obtained only such scraps of an education as could be picked up in the primitive schools of his childhood. He resided with his parents, working on the old farm until he was about eighteen years old, when he began the battle of life for himself. He remained in

New York some four or five years, and then moved to Kalamazoo County, Mich., and engaged in farming. After residing here for some time he removed to Alcona County, Mich., and there entered upon the work of running a sawmill about ten years.

The next change in the life of our subject, and a permanent one, was to make a home in Montcalm County, where he still resides upon his highly cultivated farm of eighty rich and productive acres. Besides his pursuits of agriculture, he has also been engaged to a limited extent in lumbering.

On the 9th of October, 1871, Mr. Ellsworth entered the state of matrimony, and joined hands for life with Emma Mills, of Lucas County, Ohio. To them have been given three children: Bernice, born January 5, 1873; Jennie, January 16, 1881; and Sada, September 23, 1887. Miss Bernice is now a successful school teacher in her native county, having taught two terms in Belvidere Township. Mrs. Ellsworth is an earnest and devoted Christian in communion with the Baptist Church, and Mr. Ellsworth's political views are strongly in the Prohibition line. He has held several responsible offices in the county, having served as Constable for two terms, and afterward being appointed on the Board of Review. Upon the expiration of his office he was elected to succeed himself in this position, and he is now filling the third term.



NORMAN CLARK, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Easton Township, has been connected with the interests of Ionia County since the spring of 1864. His first purchase of real estate was small, as he was at that time working at a trade, but after some years he connected farming with his other work, and added to his land. He now has one hundred acres on sections 9 and 10, which, with the improvements that have been made upon it and the productiveness to which it has been brought, makes one of the finest farms in the township.

The parents of our subject were Harding and Olive (Tucker) Clark, natives of Cheshire County,

N. H., and for many years residents in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. Of the children born to them the survivors are Norman, James and Warren, the second of whom lives in New York, and the third in Iowa. The oldest is our subject, who was born in the Empire State, January 29, 1823. His father carried on both blacksmithing and farming, and at an early age the son began to work at both occupations. He attended the common school and worked off and on at farming until he was eighteen years old, when he gave his attention entirely to the forge. He mastered the blacksmith's trade, and for forty years was steadily engaged in the shop.

When twenty-four years old Mr. Clark went to County Leeds, Province of Ontario, where he remained many years following his trade with great energy. There he was married in 1852, to Pamela Chamberlain, who lived to help him establish a home in this State and see his affairs placed on a solid basis. She passed away in June, 1877, mourned by a family to whom she had been devoted, and the neighbors and friends who had witnessed her deeds of kindness. Her children were six in number, three living, namely: Warren, in Isabella County; Wilkison, at home; and Lucy, wife of George Percival, in Grand Forks County, N. Dak. The deceased are Amy, Elma and Ezra. The first-named was the wife of William Blewer, and the mother of little Ina Lucy Blewer, now five years old, whose childish graces enliven the home of our subject.

When Mr. Clark came to Ionia County, he came alone and after deciding upon a location sent for his family. He bought an acre of ground, built a house, barn and shop, and for years worked at his trade exclusively. As circumstances warranted, he increased his real estate and turned his attention somewhat toward agriculture until he finally abandoned the forge. It affords his friends pleasure to know that he has succeeded in life, and he is frequently pointed out as one of the examples worthy of imitation by the rising generation.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Clark remained a widower until June 28, 1882, when he was married to Celia E. Jones. This lady was born in Washtenaw County, April 1, 1844, and is one of seven children making up the family of William A. and Eliza-

beth (Skidmore) Jones. She has two sisters living: Alice, wife of Henry Burr, of Isabella County; and Helen M., wife of Zerah Burr, in Washtenaw County. Her father was one of the early settlers of this State, going there in 1833, and settling on a farm which was his home until death. To Mrs. Celia Clark one daughter has been born, Julia, now deceased.

In his political views Mr. Clark is a Republican. He favors progress and advancement, and he and his wife as active members of society, aid in bringing about desirable results. He has served as School Treasurer, but has not otherwise been in public life. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he holds the office of Steward. In general intelligence he will compare favorably with any except the most highly educated, and his standing in the community is most excellent.



WILLIAM HARDING, of Montcalm County, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, October 25, 1822, and is the son of William and Susan (Spencer) Harding, both of English birth. He lived with his parents until at the age of fourteen years he was bound out as an apprentice to learn the painter's trade in London. He was under obligation to stay with his master until his term of apprenticeship expired. Once he attempted to escape on a vessel but was arrested and carried back.

When twenty-one years old our subject sailed for America and joined his father's family at Cleveland, Ohio, where they had moved shortly before. He began working at his trade and remained in Cleveland for sixteen years. He put in the first work in stained glass ever done in a church in that city, and was often sent to Chicago and other large cities to do fine work in his line. November 15, 1846 he chose as his life partner Emeline Goble, whose brother's life is sketched in this work. They have been blessed by the birth of ten children, as follows: Lydia R., born August 12, 1847; Anna M., February 21, 1849 (died in infancy); Mary,

born June 7, 1850; Susie, March 17, 1852; Lucinda, November 27, 1854; Emma J., August 17, 1857; Clara, November 13, 1859 (died July 12, 1887); Flora, born April 12, 1863; Josephine, December 17, 1865; Willie, February 14, 1875. All the surviving children except Willie are married.

The subject of this sketch came to Montcalm County and settled on his present homestead in Sidney Township, in December, 1862. He has it nearly all cleared and nicely improved. He was in the army about one year, serving as Commissary in Camp Cleveland. When he came to this county he endured many hardships before being really established comfortably in his new home. He often carried seventy-five pounds of provisions from Greenville to his home, a distance of ten miles, as he had no horse.

Mr. Harding cut all the roads through the woods around his place. He built his present residence out of timber taken off his own farm and has a beautiful home. He is a naturalized citizen of the United States, having taken out his papers October 7, 1852. He has served his fellow-citizens in the office of Justice of the Peace four years and also a School Director. He was brought up in the Church of England and is a believer in its doctrines and form of worship. He has a precious heirloom in the form of a candlestick which he believes to be the oldest in the United States. It was made in Rhode Island eighty years before the Revolutionary War and has been handed down from generation to generation. It will next go to the eldest daughter when Mrs. Harding shall be called away from this world.



GEORGE MATHISON is a prominent farmer of Home Township, Montcalm County, and a descendant of an ancient and honorable family of Denmark. His father, Mathias Hansen, was born in Laaland, Denmark in 1795, where the grandfather was a farmer and served in the Danish army at the siege of Copenhagen in the War of 1801, when Gen. Nelson and the English navy were bombarding the Danish capital. The paternal

great-grandparents of our subject came from the mainland to the coast of Jutland, and were fishers near Aalberg. They settled in Laaland about 1650.

The father of our subject served in the Danish army under King Frederick VI. When twenty-five years of age he was appointed Sheriff of Skjoaing County, Laaland, which office he held for thirty successive years. He was also engaged in farming, and owned land of about thirty acres near Maribo. He was a Lutheran in religion and a well educated and exceedingly well-informed man. His wife, Maria Jenson, was born in Laaland in 1805, and was the daughter of Jens Hansen, who was a native of Copenhagen and a shoemaker by trade.

The mother of George died in 1888. The father was twice married. The first family of children numbered five, three of whom grew to maturity. Hans was in the Schleswig-Holstein War from 1848 to 1851, and is now a farmer in Laaland. The subject's sister Mary also lives at the old home. The second marriage resulted in thirteen children, three only of whom grew to manhood: Christian, also engaged in the Schleswig-Holstein War of 1864 and now on the police force of Copenhagen; Wilhelm emigrated to this country and is a florist of New York City; George is the youngest of the surviving children.

The subject of this sketch was born near Maribo, Laaland, Denmark, January 14, 1848. After his father's death, which occurred when he was about sixteen years old he concluded to come to America and see if he could not improve his prospects for life. He took a steamer to England and from Liverpool took passage in the spring of 1864, making an eleven-day trip to Quebec. Thence he came directly to Chicago, where he arrived a stranger in a strange city. He went to Oshkosh, Wis., and spent a year there working on a farm; then to the pine woods near Stevens Point. During the summers he worked in a sawmill at Oshkosh. In 1868 he went to Leavenworth, Kan., and was for three years in the Government's employ, hauling supplies to the frontier. It took about three months to make a trip to and from the fort. He lived most of the time on buffalo meat and hardtack.

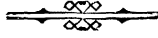
In 1871 he began to work on the railroad at Harrisville, Mo., then at Sedalia, Mo., and after that took work in the lead mines in Cooper County.

In the fall of 1876 George Mathison returned East and settled in Clinton County, Ohio, but the next spring he came to Michigan and entered the employ of S. H. Baird, at Cedar Spring, Kent County. Here he worked in the shingle and lumber factory in that place until Mr. Baird removed to Home Township, when he came with him and continued work there and at Big Rapids. The last six or seven years he was with this employer he occupied the responsible position of foreman of the logging department. In 1888 he located on section 27, of Home Township, on land which he had purchased in 1881. He has sixty-five acres of excellent land upon which he has put all necessary improvements, house, barns and outbuildings. Here he has engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

While he was working in Missouri our subject entered into a life union with Miss Fannie Myers. The marriage took place in Pleasant Hill, Mo., February 10, 1872. Mrs. Mathison is of German descent. Her father was a farmer in Nicholas County, Ky., where he died some years ago. The grandfather of Mrs. Mathison, Abraham Myers, was one of the very first settlers in Nicholas County, Ky., making his home among hostile Indians with whom he was in warfare. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. The wife of our subject was left an orphan by the death of both parents while she was still a young girl, after which she was dependent upon herself. She early learned the fine art of a Kentucky cook and easily paid her own way by self-respecting labor. She met her future husband while in charge of the culinary department of the hotel at Pleasant Hill.

Three children—Annie, Clinton and Henry—have come to the home of the Mathisons. Mr. Mathison professes the faith and practice of the Lutheran Church, while his wife is a member of the Congregational Church at Edmore. He is active in political matters and belongs to the Republican party. He is School Assessor, and a member of the Knights of the Maccabees at Edmore, and President of the Home Lodge of the Patrons

of Industry. His early training and a justifiable pride in his honorable ancestry have given him a taste for reading especially in the line of history, his information in this line being of more than ordinary value.



IRA W. BARLOW was born in Avon, Livingston County, N. Y., December 25, 1826, and is a son of Obed and Abigail (Whaley) Barlow. His father was a native of Massachusetts and his mother of Rhode Island. She was a descendant of John Whaley, one of the famous regicides who fled to this country after the death of Charles I. Ira remained at his father's home until he was twenty years of age and then entered the army and served during the Mexican War. After being in the army about one year he returned home on account of sickness. As his father removed to Wayne County, Mich., when the child was only eight years old, his education has been quite limited. During his childhood he never attended a free school nor saw a blackboard. His own children have never attended a free school. At one time he went to a winter school four and a half miles from home and had to follow an Indian trail to find his way back and forth.

The subject of our sketch removed to Indiana and was for four years engaged in boating there. On July 3, 1851, he was united in marriage with Ann McIntosh, of New York, by whom he had three children: Milo, born June 25, 1852, who has married Ella Varnormon; Jennett, Mrs. Carter, born November 11, 1855; Grande D., May 16, 1858. He finally settled on a farm on one hundred and sixty acres in Montcalm County. This he obtained on a warrant from the Government for services rendered in the Mexican War. This is the present home of the family; when he took it up it was a dense forest with no roads. He had to cut a wagon road four miles into the woods in order to get to his land.

Mr. Barlow helped to organize Sidney Township in 1857 and attended the first town meeting. He was then elected Supervisor and held the office for seven years. He has also served the township in

the capacities of Pathmaster and School Director. His first year on the new home was one of trial and disaster. His first crop was cut down in August, by heavy frost, and forest fires destroyed the hay which he had put up for a winter's supply for his stock. This destitution caused him to lose his yoke of oxen and his milch cow during the winter, and the wolves were so plentiful and so bold that they carried off the carcass of an ox and dragged it forty rods away in one night over piles of logs five feet high. Game was then so plentiful that it became a pest and at one time Mr. Barlow killed nine hundred squirrels in one field of wheat to prevent them from destroying his grain. One of his neighbors, a Chippewa, killed ninety-seven bears in one fall, and deer were so common as to excite but little attention. Our subject's career in Montcalm County has been that of an intelligent, upright and progressive man, regarding the rights of his neighbors and helping forward all good causes.



WALTER H. BLUMBERG. The present Town Clerk of Douglass Township, Montcalm County, is a native of this State, having been born in Wayne County, May 5, 1850, at a point about twelve miles southwest of the city of Detroit. He is the son of Michel and Almira (Hyde) Blumberg. His parents were natives of New York and emigrated from there about the year 1832. When our subject was a little child of scarcely two years his father removed to Ingham County and resided there as a farmer until the boy was fourteen years old. Walter at that time left the parental roof and began the battle of life for himself. He lived about two years with a sister who was married to a Mr. Lewis and after that went to reside with his brother, Charles W. Here he remained until he decided to take to himself a wife and establish a home of his own.

The marriage of Walter Blumberg with Olive Brayman, took place July 3, 1877, in Oakland County. Their union has been blessed by three children—Addie E., born June 28, 1878; Emma



Yours Truly
Elijah Pratt

E., September 11, 1880; and Cornelius Emery, June 21, 1885. These children are all living and in their vigorous and happy young lives are a source of unfailing comfort to their parents.

Although deprived of good opportunities of learning in his youth, the subject of this sketch has always taken a keen interest in educational affairs. He is determined that his children and the children of his neighbors shall have the best that is to be obtained in this direction, and he is rejoiced that his children have been able to profit by better opportunities than he had in the primitive schools of Michigan. He and his wife are both active and earnest professors of religion in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

This gentleman has held the office of Constable for two terms in this precinct and is now serving his second term in the office of Town Clerk. His political convictions and efforts are with the Prohibition party.



ELIJAH PRATT. In traveling through Ionia County the passing stranger sees many fine farms and observes with pleasure the evidences of prosperity and good taste on every hand. One of the tracts which present this appearance is situated on section 21, Ionia Township, and is justly considered one of the best farms in the county. It is owned and operated by Mr. Pratt, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page. Since he took up his residence in this county he has proved a worthy addition to its citizenship and has greatly assisted in its agricultural development, as he is a man of active brain, possesses clear judgment, and is enterprising and capable.

Mr. Pratt is descended from sturdy Revolutionary ancestry. His father, Jacob Pratt, who was born in Massachusetts in 1784, was a soldier in the War of 1812 and followed the callings of a farmer and mechanic. His mother, whose maiden name was Rachael Anderson, was born in Massachusetts about 1787, and was a daughter of William Anderson of Massachusetts, who served all through the

Revolutionary War, and surviving the dangers of that stormy period lived to the venerable age of ninety-six years. Jacob Pratt and his wife were married in Massachusetts and emigrated first to Madison County, and then to Erie County, N. Y., where they made their home until 1836. They then removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, and sojourned there for two or three years. In 1839 they came to Michigan and located first in Oakland County, then in Saranac where they completed their lives, he dying in 1849 and she following him in 1852. He was a Class-Leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church of which they were both members, and in connection with which they did much praiseworthy work. He was an earnest devoted man and his is a precious memory to his descendants.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Pratt were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are now living at quite an advanced age. The youngest of these is sixty-one years of age and the eldest, seventy-seven years old. The subject of this sketch was born November 20, 1819, in Erie County, N. Y. He received a common-school education and then leaving home at seventeen years of age went to Ashtabula County, Ohio. In 1837 he came to Michigan, where in Oakland County he learned of his older brother the trade of a millwright. Here he remained until 1841, then settled in Lyons, Ionia County, and with his brother Aaron built the first gristmill there on the old McKelvey farm. Selling out to his brother in 1846 he went to Saranac, Ionia County, and built the gristmill which now stands at that point. He operated that mill for about twenty-five years and then selling out removed to Chicago where he remained for a year.

In 1872 the subject of this sketch started out in a new direction, going to Silver City, New Mexico, and engaged in the building of quartz mills and other appliances for the mining industries. Here misfortune overtook him and he lost much of the property he had gained during his prosperous years in Michigan. He resided at Chetopa, Kan., for a year, then returning to Michigan settled upon his present farm, and patiently went to work to regain his financial standing, in which he has been successful. His farm is in a good condition both as to

land and buildings. One hundred and twenty-four acres are contained in it, of which ninety-five are under the plow.

Mr. Pratt was united in marriage in 1842 with Celestine Stevens, who died December 29, 1865, having been the mother of six children, three of whom are now living, namely: Adelaide, Mrs. Mason W. Stoddard, of Clinton County, who is the mother of three children; Ida, Mrs. Charles Jones, of Grand Rapids, the mother of two children; Elnora, Mrs. Levi Fellows of Ottawa County. His second marriage was with Helen A. Marble, a daughter of Samuel and Caroline (Spinning) Marble. This event took place February 23, 1867. Mr. Marble was a native of Pennsylvania and his wife of New Jersey. Twenty-five years ago they emigrated from the State of New York to Elkhart, Ind. Mrs. Marble died in 1873 at Silver City, New Mexico. Her husband departed this life in January, 1891. They were the parents of nine children, eight of whom are still living.

Mrs. Pratt was born October 11, 1845, in Cayuga County, N. Y. She and her husband have no children. They are both members of the Episcopal Church in which he has been an officer for some time. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Blue Lodge in which he has been Master. At Saranac he was a member of the School Board. He has been Township Treasurer of Austin Township and Highway Commissioner for three years, and is now Justice of the Peace here. He is wide-awake in regard to political matters, and casts his vote with the Democratic party.

Mathew G. Pratt, brother of Elijah, has been recently visiting him. He was born May 30, 1824, in Erie County, N. Y., and came West with his father's family in 1844, soon after which he started out for himself. His home is in Gratiot County, where he has pursued the vocation of a mechanic. In 1845 he married Sarah M. Wood, of Fond du Lac County, Wis. She died in 1856, leaving two children. He again married in 1858 Augusta Higgins, who died leaving no children. His marriage with Mary Venable of Sidney, Iowa, took place in 1872, and at her death in 1874 she left no children. He again married in 1882 Emeline Coleman who has one child—Charles Ernest, about eight years

old (1891.) When he lived in Sidney, Iowa, he fitted out a train of emigrants to cross the plains. The Indians captured the entire train and killed all the people except one woman who was kept in captivity for six months and finally was released.



GILMAN J. WRIGHT. This honored citizen of Montcalm County is closely connected with the business interests of Home Township as a farmer and mechanic. He owns and occupies a tract of eighty acres on sections 19 and 30, and also carries on a wagon and repair shop in Edmore. He has held every township office except that of Treasurer, is prominent among the old soldiers, and influential and active in church work. When he came to the township he bought out a homesteader's claim that was watered by Stony Creek, and set to work to make the improvements that he thought proper for a well-regulated farm. He now has a complete line of farm buildings, has the land under excellent tillage, and derives a satisfactory income from the sale of the stock and crops he raises.

Mr. Wright belongs to an old Connecticut family, but he is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born in Pittsfield, Lorain County, May 1, 1844, and spent his infancy and childhood there and in Carlyle Township. In 1850 his parents removed to this State, traveling with a team and wagon according to the primitive fashion. A tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Kalamazoo County was bought and located upon and various improvements made, the son aiding in the work necessary as far as his youthful strength would permit. He had but limited school privileges, only attending one winter, but studied at home and gained considerable practical knowledge. In 1860 he returned to his native State and worked out nearly two years.

The war-cloud had settled over the country and young Wright was filled with a patriotic desire to enter the service of the country. Young as he was he enlisted in January, 1862, and was enrolled in Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio

Infantry. He was mustered in at Johnson's Island, where he acted as guard over prisoners until his term of service expired when he was mustered out and honorably discharged in April, 1865. He returned to Ohio, but came at once to this State and took charge of his father's old farm, which he carried on some months. He then went again to his native State and for a year and a half gave his attention exclusively to wagon-making, then combined with that trade the work of a carpenter and joiner. In August, 1872, he bought his present location and moved onto the place the next year. He gave his attention to farming until the summer of 1890, when he was requested to open a wagon and repair shop, which he did.

The marriage of Mr. Wright and Miss Lydia L. Park was solemnized in Sandusky, Ohio, in August, 1864. The bride was born in Preston, Chenango County, N. Y. The union has been blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Minnie E., deceased; Willard J. and Charles G. Mrs. Wright has been an efficient helpmate and a devoted mother and the good opinion that is held of her by her neighbors is indicative of her kindness and social nature.

The first frame barn built in Home Township was put up by Mr. Wright upon his farm and there the first mowing machine was used in the township. He has been School Director fifteen years in succession and served for a long time as Township Clerk and Justice of the Peace. He is now Senior Vice-Commander of the Grand Army Post, and has been Commander. Politically he is a Republican and his service has been given to the party as a delegate to county conventions. His religious membership is in the Congregational Church and he holds the offices of Deacon and Trustee; he is Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school and Superintendent of a mission school. His private character is unimpeachable, his reputation in business circles enviable, and he exerts an influence on the side of right and progress that is felt throughout the neighborhood.

Josiah Wright, grandfather of our subject, spent his entire life in Connecticut, where he carried on the occupation of a farmer and fisherman. His son Jonathan was born near Saybrook, and in his

early life settled in Lorain County, Ohio, where he was engaged in teaching and later in farming. He came to this State in 1850, but his health became so poor that he went back to his native State and died there when his son Gilman J. was twelve years old. His wife bore the maiden name of Miranda Cochran and was born in Londonderry, Vt., September 10, 1813. She is a daughter of David Cochran, who was born in Vermont and was of Irish parentage. That gentleman was one of the early settlers in Lorain County, Ohio, and there his daughter was married to Jonathan Wright. On the death of her husband she was left with two children, our subject being the elder. The other was Charles H., who is now living in Utah and is an engineer on the Central Pacific Railroad; he entered the army when quite young, enlisting in 1863 in the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Infantry and served until the close of the war. Mrs. Wright has for years made her home with her son Gilman, and is now seventy-five years of age.



GEORGE E. BEADLE is classed among the farmers of Ionia County and is operating a tract of one hundred and twenty-eight acres on section 6, Lyons Township. All is under cultivation but fifteen acres which is covered with timber. Mr. Beadle is doing well in general farming, has the place well stocked and raises crops that never fall below the average in quality or quantity. The property on which he makes his home and which he is so successfully operating, belongs to his father, who is living upon a smaller farm in Ronald Township, to which our subject holds the title. The place which is owned by George Beadle contains sixteen acres and has good buildings upon it.

Mr. Beadle is the son of Wilbur and Chloe (Fox) Beadle, who were natives of New York and who came to this State many years ago. They were married in Eaton County and established their home in Benton Township, on land that was bare of improvements when they took possession. After a time they changed their location to another sec-

tion in the same township and thence came to Ionia County in 1865. Here they occupied the tract that is now the home of the son and from it they removed to his farm in Ronald Township. They have three living children—George, Hattie and Edie, and lost one in infancy.

The gentleman with whose name these paragraphs is introduced was born in Eaton County, September 21, 1848. His first educational privileges were had in that county and he afterward went to school in Ionia County. He assisted his father from year to year and became thoroughly conversant with the management of a farm before he left home, which he did when twenty-one years old. He was married in 1876 to Miss Martha Thompson who was born in Wayne County, New York, December 1847, and came to this State when a child six years old. Her parents were Sylvanus and Ora (Barney) Thompson, both of whom were born in the Green Mountain State. Immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Beadle took up their residence on his father's farm, sixty acres of which was then under improvement.

Mr. Beadle is a man of much intelligence, keeping himself well informed regarding the world's work and making quite a study of the issues of the day. He is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. The only local office he has held is that of Lathmaster. He is a member of the Christian Church and is connected with the congregation in Ronald Township that is known as the Union Church. He and his wife have a pleasant circle of acquaintances, to whom their doors are always hospitably open.



JOSEPH ROASCH. In every section of the United States the native of Germany has been making his way to competence and honor, displaying the sturdy enterprise, honesty and industry that have resulted in bringing his native land in the front rank among nations. Ionia County is not without her representatives of this nationality, and foremost among them is the gentleman above named, who has been living in

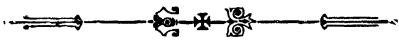
Keene Township for more than thirty years. He has been a potent factor in the development of the agricultural resources of the county and has attained to a substantial footing among the property owners of the township. His farm is only of medium size, but is well tilled and improved, and is the source of an income adequate for his wants.

In the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, Mr. Roasch was born on Christmas Day, 1829. His parents were George and Clara (Fischer) Roasch, who were born in the Fatherland and spent their lives there. They reared their son in accordance with the customs of the country, giving him a practical education in the schools that are kept by the government, and teaching him industrious habits and a knowledge of farm work. After he had grown to manhood he made up his mind that a broader field for the exercise of his talents would be afforded in America, and bidding adieu to the land of his birth, he embarked at Havre on a sailing vessel and seven weeks later landed in New York City. He had about \$10 when he set foot upon American soil, but in lieu of large capital he had an abundant supply of energy, determination and mother wit. He was economical and when employment was secured the way was opened to a competence.

Mr. Roasch went to Canada, where he worked as a farm hand and on railway construction a few months, but in the fall he made his way to Ionia County, this State, which has since been his home. Keene Township has been the scene of his labors from that time, but for several years he worked as a farm hand, before he was able to establish himself on land of his own. When he bought property it was in the uncleared sections and he was obliged to wield the ax, do logging and breaking, and other work which is necessary in reclaiming the timber lands of America. Before he left his own country he served five years in the German army, in accordance with the law of the land.

Mr. Roasch was married May 30, 1867, to Rosannah Takey, a native of New York, and a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Geurmsey) Takey, natives of Germany. They married in this country and both died at their home near Utica, N. Y. The union has been blessed by the birth of five children,

whose names are George, Frederick, Sophronia, Charles and Clara. Both husband and wife belong to the Catholic Church, and their children are being carefully instructed in the tenets of the mother church. Mr. Roasch has been School Treasurer for fifteen years and the confidence thus reposed in him is a strong proof of the opinion his neighbors have of his honesty. The vote he casts is a Democratic one. In his business relations he has the full confidence of those with whom he deals, and in social circles he is well regarded as one of the enterprising, intelligent and genial men of the neighborhood.



IRIF. LE VALLEY is the son of Holden Le Valley, a native of Pennsylvania, and Irene (Fuller) Le Valley, who was born in Vermont. They were married in Herkimer County, N. Y., December 26, 1810. The parents of Mrs. Le Valley emigrated from Vermont into New York State at a very early day, and coming to Michigan in 1814, settled in Oakland County, being thus among the very earliest pioneers. The parents of our subject lived in Orleans County, N. Y., where the father died June 9, 1823, and the mother a month earlier. They were the parents of six children, three of whom are now living: Ara, born in 1814; Eri, in 1816; and our subject Iri, May 5, 1818, in Orleans County, N. Y.

Left an orphan when only five years of age, Iri Le Valley was taken by his uncle Christopher Le Valley to his home. Here he remained until he was ten years old when he went to live with Mr. J. Waldo, on the Mohawk River. He remained with this family until he reached his majority when he received from them according to the custom of the day, \$100. He then went to work by the month for Isaac Malleson, near Utica, Oneida County, N. Y., bargaining for \$12 per month. He worked seven months and received the sum of \$8. He then went to Mr. Willis, who was building the Black River Canal, and engaged to furnish sand for six locks of this canal. He had worked here six weeks, when one day while working in a sand bank

it caved in and he was buried up to his neck. The pressure broke his breast bone. By a herculean effort he extricated himself and cleared the sand from his wagon and team. He kept on working for a few days when he fell into convulsions. This was his last work for fourteen months. When he was able to work again his money was all gone and he was in debt \$40 to the doctor. His health was not fully restored but he worked at doing chores to support himself. For several years he had occasional relapses and suffered very much. He worked along thus for about two years and came in the fall of 1844 to see his brother, who had settled in Michigan. When our subject had looked about in the new State he concluded that he would try his hand at clearing land and took forty acres of land from Thomas Marsh. He began work upon a little tree six inches in diameter. He fainted away from this slight exertion, but his determination was stronger than his physical frame. When he recovered consciousness he went to Ionia got some strong linen and had some stays made into which he buckled himself tightly and went back to his work. He kept at the chopping, notwithstanding pain and suffering, and April 1, 1845, he had his forty acres paid for. He then bought another forty acres and paid for it also by chopping. Still he has never since that time seen a day which was not a day of suffering to him. His farm has one of the best springs in Michigan.

Mr. Le Valley made a home on his new farm and worked out for the neighbors. In those days he received fifty cents a day for haying and did two and a half days work for a new shirt. Three days wages in harvest bought a pound of tobacco. He put up a shanty in 1846 and in 1847 this brave man took to himself a wife, Miss Eliza A. Crawford, of Seneca County, N. Y. When they were cozily settled in their little shanty he had his wife, an ax and five shillings. In those days he had the option of fifty cents a day or a bushel of wheat as wages in harvest times. He always took wheat and while living upon it cleared off his own land. He has chopped and cleared one hundred and ninety-five acres of heavy timber, many oaks on his land measuring five feet through. He sold his first forty acres for \$200. His present residence was

built in 1863, at the cost of \$1,500. His wife, who was born February 10, 1822, died April 4, 1874. They were the parents of two children—Irene Eme-line, and Nancy Keziah. Both died in infancy. His second marital union was with Miss Lana Crawford, a sister of his former wife. This event took place April 20, 1876. They are both of them members of the Ionia Presbyterian Church to which he has belonged for about twenty-five years. They have always been earnest Sunday-school workers. In the early days he used to hold Sunday-school in his old log shanty. His first church connection was with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later he became a Presbyterian. He took care of his mother-in-law for years before her death. He has always been active in promoting the educational interests of the community, and has been a Director or Moderator of the School Board for twenty-five years. When the church was built near his home he gave an acre and a half of land for \$1 and subscribed \$50 in money or sixty days work. He served four years as Trustee, Treasurer, and on the Building Committee and when collections ran short he paid out of his own pocket the current expenses, of which he received the thanks of the church.

Mr. Le Valley has always been one of the most prominent men in Orange Township. He was one of its organizers and gave it its name. He served the township faithfully, clearing out roads and building bridges as Highway Commissioner. For five years he was Township Treasurer, and Collector and during his long term of service of twenty-six years as Justice of the Peace he has united sixty-seven couples in the bonds of matrimony. He is a Republican in politics and cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison and his last for Benjamin Harrison. In local elections he votes for the best man irrespective of party. He has always been an ardent worker in the temperance cause and in this direction has done heroic work. His wife's sympathies and activities are with him in this work. He now has one hundred and thirteen and one-half acres of land, nearly all of which is improved and all this done by his own hand. He raises cattle and sheep of good grades. Last year he raised sixty-five

lambs and in September he sold fifty of them for \$3.25 per head.

When our subject came here in 1844 there were no means of transportation between this point and Detroit, except by team or on foot. The villages of Portland and Lyons then brought all their goods from Detroit by team. On his way, traveling by foot, he stopped at what is now Howell, to hear a speech at a Democratic mass meeting. There were thirty delegates, a band and forty ladies dressed in white, all carried on six sets of wheels, drawn by twenty yokes of oxen led by a bull weighing twenty-two hundred pounds. He had a poke on covered with ribbons as were also the yokes of the oxen. They traveled through the country in this style. After hearing the speech and seeing the display the young man proceeded on his way.



JOHN E. MORRISON. Among the best citizens of our country are those descended from Scotch ancestry. With them they have brought to their new home the characteristics of prudence and frugality, of uncompromising integrity and persevering industry. Of this stock was the father of our subject, John E. Morrison, Sr., a native of New York State and a farmer. The original emigrants from Scotland were three brothers who came to America at an early day, settling in different parts of the United States. The branch to which these Morrisons belonged settled in New York State. The mother of our subject was Eliza (McKelvey) Morrison, a native of Rochester, N. Y. Her family came to Ionia County about 1834.

John E. Morrison, Sr., was born in 1815, and came to Michigan when twenty-one years of age. In 1833 he settled in Berlin Township on section 25, a fraction of Easton Township, now attached to Berlin. He took up one hundred and sixty acres of Government land, all raw, and had to cut his way through the timber in order to drive to his farm. His brave wife rode an Indian pony, carrying two children in her arms. They removed from Oakland County, Mich., where he had set-

bled in 1830 and married, to this new home, being ten days on the road. He was at this time in delicate health and very much reduced in circumstances, but proceeded to build a log house and clear off his farm, one hundred acres of which he improved. His wife died in 1881, and he followed her in 1884. Of their eleven children four are now living: Joseph, who lived in Arkansas, died April 22, 1891; Almira, Mrs. S. Shaw, also in the same State; our subject; Susan, Mrs. M. G. Allen, who lives in Ronald Township; Anna, Mrs. B. F. Beardsley, who lives in Stanton. The father took a prominent part in public affairs, being in the early days a Whig, and joining the Republican party soon after its formation. He also took an active interest in schools and was for many years School Inspector. He was also Township Clerk, Supervisor, and in 1838 Justice of the Peace. In this last capacity he united many couples in marriage. For a long while the Indians were close neighbors, and the squaws used to be the only domestic help which this good mother could secure to help her through the hard work of washing and other extra jobs. When the organization of Berlin Township in 1838 was effected he was made Moderator of the first township meeting, and was also the first Township Clerk and Inspector. In 1842 he was made Supervisor.

Our subject was born February 25, 1841, in Berlin Township, and grew up among the Indians and the wild scenes of frontier life, for his father being the first white settler in what is now Berlin Township, had no near neighbors among the whites except Oliver Arnold. His first schooling was in his own house, where a subscription school was established. His worthy parents were ambitious for the best things for their children and gave them the best education that could be secured in this way. Until he was twenty-seven years of age he remained at home, but then began for himself.

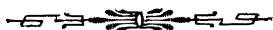
John E. Morrison, our subject, married November 4, 1868, Mrs. Mary (Sessions) Hendryx, a native of Ionia City, and an adopted child of Amasa Sessions, who originally settled upon this farm. This early settler and his valuable wife were among the earliest and have always been one of the foremost families of Ionia County. Having

no children of their own, they took the little orphan to their hearts and home and brought her up to be one of the best educated and most benevolent women in the county. Mr. Sessions settled here in 1838, and remained until 1870 when he retired from active work, removing to Ionia. His wife departed this life in 1873, and he followed her in 1886. She was a member of the Christian Church and Mr. Sessions held many responsible positions of trust in his community, being in 1842 one of the School Inspectors, and for a number of years Justice of the Peace and Supervisor of Berlin Township. He belonged to the old Whig party, and later joined the Republican ranks. Both Mr. Sessions and Mr. Morrison have borne the best records as men of purely temperate lives. Mrs. Morrison was born January 2, 1845. Besides the district school education which she could receive on the farm, her adopted parents sent her to Ionia to receive the advantages of the graded schools there, and later to Utica, N. Y., for further privileges. She afterward taught school in Berlin Township until her marriage with George W. Hendryx, by whom she had one child—May, born April 30, 1866.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are the parents of three children—Nellie, born August 30, 1870; Amasa, July 17, 1872; and John E., December 21, 1874. They were all students at the Ionia public schools and Amasa is now attending a business college at Ionia. Miss May and Miss Nellie are both excellent performers on the melodeon. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are warmly interested in the Grange, she being a lecturer in the same. For six years Mr. Morrison has been a Director of the local schools and Road Overseer, and has taken an active part in politics, voting the Republican ticket.

Mr. Morrison started empty-handed, but his push, perseverance and hard work have made him successful to a marked degree. He now owns three hundred and forty-two acres of land, over three hundred acres of which is cleared. He devotes himself mostly to the raising and feeding of stock, making a specialty of sheep raising. He keeps the fine wool Spanish-Merinoes, of which he has three hundred and fifty head. He has followed this line of work for over twenty years. His large

barns have often needed and have received additions to shelter the fine stock in which he takes a great pride. Nothing of an inferior grade is allowed on his farm and among cattle the Durhams are his favorites. He has not neglected the culture of fruit, having an orchard of ten acres.



BERNARD HACKETT, the Supervisor of Orange Township, Ionia County, is one of the old pioneers of the county. He was born in 1838, his father being Patrick Hackett, a native of County Leitrim, Ireland, and a farmer by occupation. His mother was Mary (Stanton) Hackett, a native of the same county. They were married in the Emerald Isle, and resided there until 1840, when they migrated to America, and came directly to Michigan, settling in Orange Township on section 31, on an unbroken farm located by an uncle of our subject, Barney Hackett, in 1836. Although the farm was unbroken, a log cabin had been built on the place. His first work on the eighty acres was to clear off the timber. There were but three families within two miles of his cabin. Indians and wild animals abounded, especially wolves, bears and deer. He added to his farm, and in time gave his son forty acres of it. He busied himself in improving his land and also took an active interest in establishing schools, and was for years a member of the School Board. In politics he was a Democrat. Both parents were members of the Roman Catholic Church. The father died in 1861; the mother is still living at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, four of whom are now living.

Our subject was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, and was two years old when the family came to Michigan. The opportunities for schooling in that early day were extremely limited, but this boy had the privilege of attending school in one of the first log schoolhouses in Orange Township. This schoolhouse was roughly put together, but as the history of our country has abundantly proved, a log schoolhouse and a bright teacher give a boy an excellent

start in life. His first teacher was Caroline Burgess, from Lyons. School was in session three months each year, and the teacher was paid by rate bills. He remained at home until he was twenty-eight years of age. In the meantime his father had died and he chose to care for his mother. He built a house for her and helped to get the old home in good condition before he started out for himself.

Bernard Hackett married December 27, 1866, Miss Alice Butler, a daughter of Edward and Nancy (Corcoran) Butler, both natives of Ireland, and members of the Catholic Church. They had come to America and settled for several years at Rochester, N. Y., but emigrated to Michigan in 1840, finding a home in Berlin Township, Ionia County, on a new farm. Mr. Butler cleared off and improved this land, and while industriously employed upon his farm, took an active interest in having all local matters started aright. He was a Democrat in politics, and soon became a member of the School Board. He died in the year 1872; his wife survives him, and still resides upon the old homestead, although about eighty-three years old. This couple became the parents of eleven children, eight of whom are now living, namely: Thomas, Mary (Mrs. Elbert), Kate (Mrs. Hackett), Edward, Jane (Mrs. Otis), John, Alice (Mrs. Hackett), Sarah (Mrs. Mathews).

Mrs. Hackett was born in 1844 in Berlin Township, and led the free and happy life of a pioneer child. Upon her marriage to the subject of this sketch, she came with him to their present home, a farm of ninety acres on section 30, Orange Township. The farm has been gradually enlarged, and now comprises one hundred acres, seventy of which are improved and cultivated. Mr. Hackett has built his residence and barns, and has also placed upon his farm all the other improvements which appear there. He carries on mixed farming, raising grain and stock. He and his good wife have become the parents of three children: George E., born January 20, 1868; Eugene A., May 31, 1869; Frederick B., June 30, 1872. To these children they have given a district school education, and have brought them up in the Roman Catholic faith. Mr. Hackett's continuous residence in this township for fifty-one years has made him well known to all



*(With the love of seventy three years
Albert F. Morehouse*

the citizens in his township. He is a political factor in local Democratic affairs. He has been a member of the School Board, and was elected Supervisor of Orange Township four years ago, which office he still continues to hold. His friends have quite frequently made him a delegate to both county and district conventions. He is a member of the Patrons of Industry, and has done the work of a Highway Commissioner.



ALBERT F. MOREHOUSE is termed the historian of Portland. This title he deserves by virtue of his keeping records of old settlers, statistics indicative of his country's progress, copies of speeches when delivered before old settlers' gatherings, and the interest he takes in various branches of literature. This talent is not the chief of his abilities; he is also a fine mechanic, always seeking industriously to improve the powers bestowed upon him by a kind Providence. His religious and social duties are performed conscientiously.

Livingston, Essex County, N. J., was the birthplace of Mr. Morehouse and his natal day was January 13, 1818. He was the son of David W. and Nancy (Farrand) Morehouse. He is of Puritan descent and the sixth lineal descendant of the first Morehouse who lived in America. His father died February 10, 1873, at Portland, Mich., in his eighty-sixth year. His mother died the year following. Albert F. was educated in the common schools of his native State. Evinced a marked talent for mechanics he learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he carried on successfully in Newark, N. J., Troy, N. Y., New Orleans, La., and Portland, Mich.

To Portland Mr. Morehouse came on May 24, 1843, and has since been identified with its growth. He has not worked at his trade since 1865. In 1853 he was elected Supervisor of his township, re-elected in 1854 and again in 1862. He has been Justice of the Peace for three terms. He was Township Clerk several terms and has always identified himself with the educational interests of his

village, having held the office of School Director more than twenty years. In 1863-64 he held the position of Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Representatives of the State. In local literary circles he is an active member, being President of the Portland Library and Literary Association.

In 1835 Mr. Morehouse was converted in Newark, N. J., from which time he has been a consistent member and during much of that time an officer in the church. He has been Deacon in the Baptist Church of Portland since June 15, 1865, and was Clerk of the church in 1879. At the semi-centennial celebration of the church in June, 1890, he was selected to deliver the historical address, and occupied the hour allotted to him in a manner highly praised by the large audience. He is Secretary of Portland Lodge, No. 31, F. & A. M., and it has been publicly stated that he is one of the most efficient officers of the fraternity in Michigan. Mr. Morehouse was married to Sarah C. Freeman, a descendant of Anneke Jans, and they have a family of five sons and four daughters. Of the former the eldest served in the Tenth Michigan Cavalry until the close of the war. The second son, Lewis Cass Morehouse, is a Baptist minister in Winchester, Ill. With the exception of one son who died when eight years of age all the children are living.

Mr. Morehouse is engaged in business of a miscellaneous character, including duties devolving upon him as Notary Public, Conveyancer of Deeds, Claim Agent, etc. Few men have been called upon to write more wills than he; few are better or more favorably known. At an early age he was called from the vocation he had chosen to attend to the interests of the community where he resides. Although not educated in the law his ready appreciation of its rules and the principles of government insured his success. His religious views have formed his code of action, and his integrity and fidelity have held the confidence of the people. His executive ability in the settlement of estates is constantly called into requisition.

In common with other pioneers of Michigan Mr. Morehouse passed through some thrilling experiences, among them an encounter with a bear when on his way to his home one mile from the village.

A short distance from him was bruin, apparently as much astonished as he at the unexpected meeting. Mr. Morehouse kept his eye fixed upon bruin until the latter changed his course and passed by a few rods away from him. Since that early day many changes have been made. The forests are all felled and the hands of pioneers have changed the face of nature. When Mr. Morehouse bought and moved on the eighty-acre farm he yet owns adjoining the corporate limits of the village the wilderness was unbroken and no roads had been made. It was not unusual to see deer and wild turkeys near the house, while the whole country was in almost its primeval condition. As might be expected Mr. Morehouse is a member of the Michigan State Pioneer and Historical Society and the Vice-President representing his county.

In June, 1877, after an absence of a third of a century, Mr. Morehouse revisited the home of his childhood in New Jersey, and on the occasion of the celebration of the Fourth of July of that year he was an invited and honored guest in the procession and occupied a prominent seat on the platform. He is now comfortably living in the enjoyment of a hard-earned competency and maintaining the respect of his large circle of friends, who will be pleased to notice his portrait on another page of this volume.



JUDSON BUTTOLPH occupies a pleasantly-located farm on section 9, Otisco Township, and has other farm lands within Ionia County. He is prominently connected with the agricultural affairs of the neighborhood, and has considerable influence in all matters that pertain to the welfare of the community. As a farmer he is industrious and thorough-going, ready to adopt a practical idea, yet never giving up the old plans without due consideration of the new. His farm is supplied with the necessary outbuildings and a good farmhouse, and is stocked with domestic animals that are kept in good condition and always find a ready sale.

The parents of Judson Buttolph were the Rev.

John and Sarah (Douglas) Buttolph, natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts. Their marriage took place in the Empire State August 27, 1816, and to them were born six children, namely: Sylva A. and Henry D., deceased; John G., whose home is near Pontiac; James W., living near Pompeii; Judson, our subject; and Sarah Maria, a resident of Pontiac. The deceased son was a Baptist minister and was the second of that denomination located at Ionia. The father was engaged in the ministry of the Baptist Church in the Empire State until June, 1826, when he removed to Michigan, selecting Troy, Oakland County, as the place of his residence. He took up two hundred and ten acres of Government land, upon which he built a log house; he did not live long enough to improve it, but died three months after his arrival, October 1.

The eyes of Judson Buttolph opened to the light June 27, 1825, in Dutchess County, N. Y., and he was an infant when brought to this State. From his father's estate he received forty-three and a half acres of land, on which he began farming when of age. In 1849 he came to Ionia County and bought two farms in Otisco Township, the one of eighty and the other of fifty acres. He also purchased one hundred and thirty-two acres near Smyrna. After going to Otisco Township and working there for a time Mr. Buttolph went onto his mother-in-law's farm, but in 1876 he removed to his present home. The property on which he lives consists of forty-eight acres and his present possessions elsewhere are a fifty-acre tract, a sixty and a seventy.

Mr. Buttolph was married October 6, 1851, to Miss Lydia Alger. The union has been blest by the birth of seven children, of whom Sarah, James, Jennie and Henry are living. Three are deceased. The youngest child is at home; James is in Spencer, Kent County, and the daughters live in Otisco Township.

Mr. Buttolph has served as School Inspector and is now discharging the duties of Justice of the Peace for his third term. In politics he is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Baptist Church. They enjoy the friendship of a goodly circle of acquaintances and keep up with the times

in their knowledge of passing events that are of general interest and in their association in projects that promise to advance the common welfare. Mr. Buttolph was fortunate in receiving more than a common-school education, having been privileged to attend school in Romeo and Kalamazoo, and a manual training school in Ashtabula County, Ohio.



GEORGE DINSMORE is one of the large landowners of Portland Township, Ionia County, and finds abundant occupation in looking after the work of his estate. He pursues general farming but pays rather more attention to the cultivation of wheat and the raising of sheep than to any other part of the work. His landed estate aggregates three hundred and twenty-one acres, which is divided into three farms and supplied with good sets of buildings, ample machinery and first-class stock. A native of the township, Mr. Dinsmore is as thoroughly identified with its interests as any man can be, and he is old enough to realize much of the hardship which pertains to pioneer life and to vividly recall scenes of quite primitive times.

William Dinsmore, father of our subject, was born in Massachusetts and went from that State to New York, where he married Jane Berry. In the fall of 1836, when their oldest child, Mary, now the wife of Sylvester Jenkins was an infant, Mr. and Mrs. Dinsmore came to this State, journeying with an ox-team. They settled on the site of Portland, building a shanty on what is now James Street, in which they lived several years and which was the birthplace of our subject. Mr. Dinsmore bought a fractional seventy-six acres on section 34, which he proceeded to improve while working at his trade of shoemaking whenever he could get work, which was by no means often. The hardships of those times were heavy, even at the best, and the Dinsmores suffered some misfortunes that did not befall every pioneer family. They had two cows to which the straw from the beds had been fed, as the winter was a hard one and fodder scarce,

and they seemed destined to die unless they could subsist on the tender shoots of trees. Spring was almost at hand and a hand was sent out to cut some trees for them, but being careless he felled a tree on one of the cows. This catastrophe, hard to bear at any time, was doubly disheartening then, and caused Mr. Dinsmore to cry like a child.

The market for commodities raised here was at Detroit, one hundred and eight miles distant, and when the roads were at their best and no bad luck happened, the journey consumed about ten days. For the first wheat Mr. Dinsmore procured for seed he paid \$2 per bushel, but for the crop raised therefrom he received but two shillings per bushel. Several years after his arrival here, while serving as Treasurer of the township, the public money, \$50 was stolen while the family was absent from the house. To replace such a sum was very difficult in those days, but Mr. Dinsmore did so. At the first opportunity the township voted the sum back to him. He acted as Supervisor six years; he died in 1873 and his widow survived until 1877. Their mortal remains were deposited side by side in the cemetery at Portland, near where they spent so many years of toil and experienced so much of life's joy and sorrow. They reared five children, four of whom are still living, namely: Mary, George, John and Alice. The last named is the wife of Oscar Jenkins, of Portland. Their son William was a soldier in the Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry, and died in a hospital in New York Harbor, from a wound received at the Battle of the Wilderness.

The natal day of George Dinsmore was April 15, 1838, and the experiences of his boyhood were similar to those of other lads in frontier settlements. All the schooling he obtained was that of the district schools and generally consisted of but three months in the winter, the summers being spent in hard work on the farm. In his early life he worked at the shoemaker's bench, but farming has been his chief occupation, and in later years his attention has been given entirely thereto. He is a thorough-going farmer, observant of natural phenomena and the result of various methods of fertilization and cultivation, and reaps a due reward for his industry and zeal.

When not yet of age Mr. Dinsmore took to himself a wife, being married December 29, 1858, to Miss Helen M. Scott. This lady was born November 16, 1839, in Barry, Orleans County, N. Y., and lived there until two years old. Her parents then removed to Ontario County, but after a sojourn of four years went to St. Louis, Mo., whence about eighteen months later, they returned to New York. The daughter was fifteen years old when they came to Lenawee County, this State, and a year later settled in Portland.

Mrs. Dinsmore continued her studies in the select schools of Portland and when sixteen years of age began teaching. She pursued the profession but two terms ere abandoning it to preside over a well-kept home. She is a judicious manager of household affairs and her dwelling contains many evidences of her taste, being adorned with useful and ornamental articles of her handiwork. She has a decided love for flowers and cares for quite a conservatory. Music is one of the favorite recreations of the family, one of the sons presiding at the organ, while the rest join in vocal strains. As singers in the church they have been useful and prominent for years, Mrs. Dinsmore's aged father assisting with the bass viol. The living children of Mr. and Mrs. Dinsmore are two in number—Albert and Adelbert, who were born June 18, 1868. For the past two years Albert has been clerking in a hardware store but Adelbert sticks to the farm. Flora, the first-born and only daughter, died in 1861 when still a child.

Justin Scott, father of Mr. Dinsmore, was born August 4, 1815, in Phelps, Ontario County, N. Y. He is of Scotch descent but many generations back. His grandfather, David Scott, fought during the Revolution and was a close companion of Ethan Allen, with whom he entered the service and was associated until the close of the war. The two were once captured by the British and together they escaped. Justin Scott, Sr., grandfather of Mrs. Dinsmore, was a prominent man in his community and for many years a Collector and Constable. He had fifteen children, of whom Justin, Jr., was the eleventh. The latter was reared to farming but learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner and worked at the same for many years. He

was married February 22, 1839, in Newark, Wayne County, N. Y., to Nancy Ann, daughter of Adonijah and Phebe (Brown) Church, who were of Dutch ancestry. Mrs. Scott died in Portland April 13, 1879, and since her decease her bereaved husband has resided with his daughter, Mrs. Dinsmore.

In politics Mr. Dinsmore has always been an unfaltering Republican and is proud of the fact that his first vote, in 1860, was cast for Abraham Lincoln. That he enjoys the confidence of the community is shown by the fact that he has served two years as Township Treasurer and is now filling his fourth term as Supervisor. He and his wife have been identified with the Universalist Church at Portland for the last fifteen years, and have always enjoyed the respect of their associates.



SAAC HARWOOD. Among the early settlers of Ionia County was Luke Harwood, the father of our subject. He was one of the orators at the famous celebration of the Fourth of July, which took place forty-three years ago, in the grove near what was then the Coon schoolhouse. He was not only a favorite orator, but a heartily applauded singer on that occasion. Luke Harwood was born in Wethersfield, Vt., April 6, 1797. Like many another sturdy farmer of the Green Mountain State, he took some active part in the War of 1812, and started to help at the battle of Plattsburg, but it was over before he had completed his journey. He traces his ancestry back to James Harwood, of English birth, who came to this country and married Lydia Barrett, at Chelmsford, Mass., in April, 1678, and died August 1, 1719. They had six children. Their son James, from whom this line descended had four children, one of whom was also named James. He was the father of five children, his son Archibald being the grandfather of our subject. Archibald Harwood was in the Revolutionary army in 1778, though only sixteen years of age. He was one of the unhappy ones who were sold to the British by the traitor Arnold. He was a carpenter and millwright by trade and built the first mills at Eden, Vt., in 1802. He removed

to Franklin County, N. Y., but returned to Eden before his death, which occurred in 1837. He had eleven children, one of them being Luke of whom we have spoken.

Luke Harwood married Lucinda Leavitt in 1820. She was born August 30, 1796. They lived in Franklin County, N. Y. until 1832, when they removed to Wayne County, Mich., and in 1836 located upon sections 13 and 24, Berlin Township, than Cass Township. In 1839 he removed his family to the farm where he died April 16, 1863. His wife survived him until September 26, 1870. At first he located only eighty acres but afterwards added to it until he had two hundred acres all wild land. Upon this he did a splendid work, clearing nearly one hundred and twenty acres, improving it, and putting upon it two barns, a log house, and later a frame house. He was a hard-working man, industrious and persevering through severe poverty. His first home was a split log shanty, 14x16 feet, with basswood walls and floor. The fireplace had clay bottom and stone back. The house was covered with bark. Not a nail was in the house, neither for window or for doors; wooden hinges hung them and wooden latches fastened them. He afterwards enlarged this first shanty, covering it with split basswood boughs, and stuffing the ends with moss. When he began housekeeping in this primeval palace, he took account of stock and found he had one-half barrel of pork, one barrel of flour, a two-year-old heifer and fifty cents in money. This was during the last year of the Black Hawk War, and the first year of Asiatic cholera in Detroit.

This brave and patriotic couple were the parents of eight children, six of whom are still living. Mrs. Luke Harwood was a Presbyterian. Mr. Harwood took an active interest in politics, being a Jacksonian Democrat. He took part in the first town meeting held here, which covered the area, not only of Berlin Township, but also half of Orange, half of Odessa, part of Boston, and that part of Easton which lies south of the river, with a part of Ionia. This tremendous town cast forty-two votes. Luke Harwood was an active friend of schools, helping to organize and keep them up and has been frequently on the School Board, as well as

Supervisor of Berlin Township, Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner. He was one of the first Associate Judges, to which position he was appointed early in the '40s. His political influence was pronounced, as he was the marked opponent of Alonzo Sessions, and the leader of the Democracy in this township. The first murder case in this county was tried before him and Judge Brown.

Isaac Harwood was the oldest child of this household, born March 6, 1821, in Franklin County, N. Y. He came to Michigan with his father when a little lad of eleven years. He went to school in the old rude log schoolhouse and when only thirteen years of age began hauling wood, hay and coal, to and from Detroit with an ox-team. For seven years he continued this work for his father and when he reached his majority began work for himself. His first independent job was to cut down a big oak tree, thereby earning fifty cents. He then split it into rails at fifty cents per hundred. He worked by the month for two summers and bought forty acres of land from his father for \$100. He cleared off a small portion of this land, then traded it for forty acres in the township of Orleans on section 18. This was all wild land with neighbors two miles away. He lived there ten years and cleared it all off, then bought forty acres more, set out a fine orchard, fenced his farm and put up a house, all the work of his own hands. He sold this farm for \$600 and bought eighty acres of unimproved land on section 12, Berlin Township. He lived on this farm for ten years, cleared off forty acres of heavy timber and put up a frame house and a barn 32x44 feet. He cut and hauled four-foot wood from that farm to Ionia, the coldest days he has ever seen in Michigan, for twelve shillings (\$1.50) per cord, in trade. He sold out here for \$2,700 and bought again his present farm of eighty acres, a log house and thirty acres of improved land, yet full of stumps and stones. This is on section 9, of Berlin Township. He now has seventy acres of it under cultivation and built his residence at a cost of \$1,200, besides his own labor, some twenty years ago. He still carries on his farm work vigorously at seventy years of age. He has been an indefatigable worker; among other jobs

which he has undertaken he helped clear out Maple River in winter time, logged five acres on the Boon farm, also eight acres on the farm now owned by George Benedict, and made many miles of roads, both turnpikes and crossways. In Orleans Township he ran a breaking team for three years, agreeing to break forty-five acres as payment for the outfit. He completed this and also thirty acres for himself and did thirty acres as jobs for neighbors besides. When he sold that team he bought his second forty acres. He broke up fifty acres for Deacon William Babcock on the farm where Maj. Kelsey now lives.

Isaac Harwood married December 8, 1842, Mrs. Sarah Eddy, a daughter of Abram and Cynthia (Phillips) Eddy, Vermont people who came to Michigan in 1840, and settled on section 3, Berlin Township, Ionia County. The original house, now forty-five years old is still standing, with the same substantial roof which was placed upon it, and under which our subject was united in marriage to the woman of his choice. Mr. Eddy was born August 27, 1789 and died February 6, 1875. His wife was born April 16, 1790 and died February 6, 1877. Of their twelve children five survive them. Mrs. Harwood the eighth child was born November 6, 1822, in Niagara County, N. Y. Of the ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Harwood six are now living: Lyman L., who married Carrilla Loveland, lives on section 2, and has four children; Cynthia is the wife of Amon Otis, of whom see sketch; Riley with his wife, Loana (Adgate) Harwood and their four children, live in Orange Township; S. Ruhama lives in Berlin Township with her husband, Washington Coe and their three children; Hannorah, wife of Chester Adgate lives in Ionia and has five children; Abram married to Esther Johnson lives in Oakdale near Grand Rapids, and has two children; Leavitt A. married Phena Adgate and had two children. He died November 13, 1884. Three other children died young. This worthy couple, now far advanced in years, affiliate with the Christian faith and in church work, as in all other connections, are valued aids in the progress and prosperity of their community. They live alone on the old homestead and carry on the farm.

Mr. Harwood has been a member of the School

Board for many years, also Highway Commissioner. He gave the school district a site for the first school-house built in Orleans Township. He has taken an active interest in politics voting the Democratic ticket all his life. He is now reaping the reward of patient and persistent industry and a determination to do the work of life in the most thorough and conscientious manner. When opening up his Orleans Township farm he and his hired man had no roof over their heads, but slept at night under the wagon box upon straw; doing their own cooking with the exception of the bread which Mrs. Daniel Hoyt made for them. They thus broke up eleven acres in two weeks. He has never shrunk from hard work. He made over fifty thousand shingles, riving and shaving them at night, while his faithful wife at his side would with one hand, pack the shingles for him and with the other rock the cradle.



JOHAN S. WILSON. A place of honor among the farmers and stockmen of Montcalm County, is occupied by Mr. Wilson, who owns a valuable tract of land on section 20, Home Township. It consists of one hundred and eighteen acres, two-thirds of which is in the corporate limits of the town of Edmore. Mr. Wilson is the next to the oldest settler in the place and is thoroughly posted regarding the growth thereof, although his residence has not been continuous from the days when he helped to plat the town. He has a pleasant dwelling, his land is supplied with all needful outbuildings and the work of general farming goes on satisfactorily. The principal attention of the owner is given to the raising of cereals and hay, and the land being watered by a small stream is well adapted for either purpose. Besides the farm and its improvements Mr. Wilson has a store building and three town lots.

Before sketching his own life it may be of interest to give some facts regarding the progenitors of Mr. Wilson and the surroundings of his boyhood. His father, Alexander Wilson, was born in New Hampshire, but was an early settler in Ohio

and engaged in farming in Medina County. After the war broke out he made arrangements to enter the service and in December, 1863, he became a member of Battery F, First Ohio Artillery. At Nashville, Tenn., he was wounded in the left hand and thigh, and he spent many long months in the hospital. He was finally discharged in July, 1865, and badly crippled made his home henceforth with a sister in Elkhart, Ind., where he died in 1888. His wife had lost trace of him and had after some years become the wife of another, and their only son, our subject, was reared by the stepfather. Mr. Wilson was a soldier in the Mexican War as well as in the Civil War.

The mother of our subject was formerly Lucy A. Rettig, whose father came to America in 1840 and settled in Henry County, Ohio. The daughter was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, but was only five years old when brought across the water. She grew to womanhood in Ohio, and there began her wedded life. She married for her second husband Edwin B. Moore, after whom the town of Edmore was named. He was born in Medina County, Ohio, and reared to farming there. In addition to operating land he teamed to Cleveland. In 1865 he came to this State, and making his home in Stanton, teamed between that point and Ionia, hauling shingles and bringing back supplies for the grocers in Stanton. After about three years he formed a partnership with N. Shepherd and started a stage line and mail route between the two towns. This he sold out four years later and then went into the real-estate business, handling pine lands.

The firm was successful in the land trade, but their connection was dissolved in 1878, and that spring Mr. Moore came to the site of Edmore. He had previously bought seven hundred and sixty acres of land here and he platted the town, that was named by the Assistant Superintendent of the Detroit, Lansing & Michigan Railroad, Edmore. Mr. Moore was in the employ of that road, buying lands, and secured the right of way between Edmore and Big Rapids. Thus he had a good idea where a station would be likely to be established and knew where to lay out a town. He made the new place his home until the spring of

1883, put up the first buildings, handled real estate and was, in fact, the father of the municipality.

Mr. Moore removed from Edmore to Detroit, and lived rather a retired life there for two years, but dealing somewhat in lands, then went to Arkansas and bought a large tract near Carlyle, Lonoke County, and began ranching. He was fencing and ditching the ranch and had made a good beginning with his work when he was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun. He and his wife were on their way to town and he had his gun ready for game. He was carrying it outside the phaeton when the horses shied and the hammer struck the axle, causing a premature discharge and sending the shot into the leg of Mr. Moore almost from the knee to the hip. He lived two days, breathing his last February 15, 1886, at the age of fifty-five years. His widow, who was nearly frantic when she saw him stricken down by her side, now lives in Detroit with the first child of the union—M. B. Moore.

The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch was born near Saville, Medina County, Ohio, October 23, 1855, and was ten years old when he left that neighborhood for this State. He was educated chiefly in the school at Stanton and laid aside his books when sixteen years old to give his attention to staging. He drove the stage and carried the mail between Stanton and Millbrook, Mt. Pleasant, Elm Hall and Sydney Center, and was on the road every day for several years. He came to Edmore and helped plat the town, driving all the stakes and aiding in making the clearing. In 1883 Mr. Wilson went to Detroit to look after the interests of his stepfather in that place, and three years later established himself permanently in Edmore, becoming the possessor of the land before described. His dwelling is a well-built and pleasant one, having the finest location in the town, and is tastefully furnished and supplied with the good things of life.

The marriage of Mr. Wilson and Miss Roxie D. Rice was solemnized at the bride's home in Westfield, Ohio, September 1, 1885. Mrs. Wilson is a granddaughter of Samuel Rice, a native of Pennsylvania and an early settler in Medina County, Ohio. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. His

son A. A. was seven years old when the removal was made, and he still lives in the Buckeye State. A. A. Rice married Sally Moore, who was born in Westfield and is a daughter of William B. Moore, a Pennsylvanian by birth and an Ohio farmer. She is a sister of Edwin B. Moore, the stepfather of our subject. Her religious home is in the Methodist Episcopal Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Rice there were born two children, but the only one now living is Mrs. Wilson. Her education was completed in the High School at Saville, and she is well read and efficient in domestic affairs.

Mr. Wilson had an excellent opportunity to learn business principles and methods under the guidance of his stepfather, and by managing affairs for him gained practical experience. He has made much of his advantages and is a good financier and thrifty manager. As a citizen he is held in good repute, and as a neighbor and friend he is a desirable member of the community. Mrs. Wilson is equally well liked and their home is often the scene of friendly gatherings.



REV. WILLIAM J. WILSON. Whatever opinions one may hold of denominational tenets or Christian principles, none will deny that the work of the ministry is one that calls forth every good quality and the full strength of the mind. To succeed in pastoral work and bring in new members, particularly where other congregations are already well established, shows ability of a high order and sincerity of purpose that is sure of its reward in the esteem of all who witness it. It is, therefore, speaking well for the Rev. Mr. Wilson to say that he has been instrumental in increasing the membership of the Edmore Methodist Episcopal charge and that at McBride of which he has had oversight since September, 1889.

The city of Boston, Mass., is the birthplace of the Rev. Mr. Wilson and his natal day was February 13, 1866. He was left an orphan when but three years old and was cared for in the Orphans' Home

of his native city. In 1871 he was adopted by John Wilson of Centerville, Mich., and he owes to his foster father excellent training and good educational opportunities. Mr. Wilson was born in Ireland and emigrated to America in 1857, making his home in St. Joseph County, this State, where he became an industrious citizen. Possessed of a kind heart and sterling qualities, he was also a sincere Christian and instilled into the minds of his young charge the true principles that should govern life.

Our subject attended the graded school in Centerville and having completed the High School course was graduated in 1885. His studies were not confined to the schoolroom, but having early in life felt called to the ministry he has devoted much attention to theology and dogmatics. He was converted when twelve years old and from that time was an active participant in Sunday-school and church work, and soon began to look forward to entering upon the ministry. Soon after his graduation he began preaching and in 1886 when twenty years old he was duly licensed and entered upon his first charge at Mattawan.

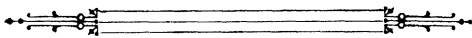
The Methodist Episcopal Class was organized at Edmore November 8, 1880, by the Rev. B. J. Miller with a membership of twenty-six. For some time prior to the erection of the house of worship, now occupied by the congregation, meetings were held in the Congregational Church, but in 1886 the Rev. D. C. Reihl saw his charge settled in their own church home. He had worked hard to accomplish the purpose, and pastor and people rejoiced greatly when they were able to dedicate their own church. The Methodist Episcopal charge has now the largest active membership of the churches in Edmore. The McBride class was organized about five years before the one in Edmore.

As before mentioned, the Rev. Mr. Wilson has made a study of theology and having become duly fitted for ordination as a deacon he was thus honored at the Michigan Annual Conference at Muskegon September 14, 1890, by Bishop E. G. Andrews. Mr. Wilson is a hard worker, an earnest student, and an eloquent speaker, and has the straightforward, cordial manner that prepossesses strangers in his favor. He has a deep sense of the obligations imposed upon him by his high calling and without



ENOCH BROWN.

being over scrupulous is careful to order his life in accordance with the faith he has professed. He was very instrumental in organizing the Epworth League in Edmore, and is President of the Society, and also of the Montcalm County Sunday-school Association. He belongs to Edmore Lodge, F. & A. M. His friends are many, not only among his congregation but throughout the community and his cultured mind and conversational powers make him a valuable addition to any social gathering.



ENOCH BROWN. This aged man has been a resident of Ionia County some forty years, and during the entire period has resided on section 6, Otisco Township. He is widely known, particularly among the farmers and business men with whom that class has dealings, and has an excellent reputation as an enterprising and progressive farmer and a thoroughly honorable business man. He was born in Chittenden County, Vt., in the year 1810, and came to Michigan when a young man twenty-six years old. His first location was in Detroit, whence he went to Macomb County, and from there to Troy, Oakland County, in which he lived until 1851. At that date he came to Ionia County and settled where he has since resided, his original purchase here being of eighty acres. He has since added one hundred acres and now has one hundred and fifty under cultivation. He has put up good buildings and has a well-regulated estate.

The father of our subject was Simon Brown, a native of Connecticut and a farmer by occupation. In the Green Mountain State he was married to Lucia Peters and they reared a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, named respectively: Aaron, Luther, Enoch, Eli, Hiram, Henry, Charlotte, Eliza, Melissa and Lucy. The father came to this State, sojourned for a time, and then went to Indiana where he remained with a son until his death.

The wedded life of Enoch Brown and Betsey A. Burgess began in 1840, their wedding rites being

solemnized in Macomb County. Mrs. Brown is a daughter of Ezra and Sally (Loomis) Burgess, natives of Canada, who gave her the best educational privileges that the neighborhood afforded and carefully instilled within her mind the principles of right conduct. She is a sincere Christian, belonging to the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of the following children: Lucy, George, Marshall, Howard, Sarah, Josephus, Edward, Sidney, Wellington, Libby and Annie.

Prior to the war Mr. Brown was a Democrat, but he has since been a sturdy Republican. His first Presidential vote was for Gen. Jackson, but in 1840 his favored candidate was William Henry Harrison, and he is one of the comparatively small number who lived to vote for the grandson of that renowned general.

The reader's attention is directed to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Brown, presented on another page.

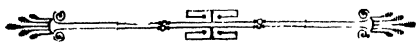


MOSSES FURNEY. Among many worthy and patriotic citizens of our country have been a large number who have come to the United States from our neighboring country of Canada. They are almost universally from a class of self-respecting, industrious and progressive people and are a credit alike to their native and adopted homes. Our subject, Moses Furney, belongs to this class being a native of Canada. His natal day was November 18, 1841. His parents Abram and Elizabeth (Buava) Furney are of Canadian-French descent. The father was engaged in farming and teaming in Canada and removed to Franklin County, N. Y., and died in Oswego County, about 1857. The mother of our subject died in 1868. Both were devout members of the Catholic Church and brought up their children in this faith. Of the nine born to them, six are now living: Abram, Anthony, Julius, Peter, Moses and Sophia, who is the wife of Austin Martin and resides in Fulton, N. Y.

Moses Furney came with his parents to New York, at the early age of six months. He resided with them until their death, after his father's

death taking care of his mother. In the fall of 1861 he obtained her consent to his enlistment in the service of his adopted country. He joined the First New York Light Artillery, Battery G, and served nearly four years, during which time he took part in the battles of Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, the siege of Yorktown, and the battles of Manassas Junction, and Petersburg. He served with great credit to himself and besides these large battles took part in numerous skirmishes. He received his honorable discharge at Elmira, N. Y., in June 1865.

After being released from the army, the subject of this sketch gladly returned to his mother's home in Oswego County, N. Y., and worked at various occupations for some time. During the last three years of his sojourn in New York State, he plied the business of a barber. In 1880, he came to Ionia County, Mich., and located at Clarksville. Here for eight years he did double service. During the day he worked at carpentering, and ran a barber shop, nights and Sundays. He finally sold out his shop and devoted himself entirely to the carpenter's and painter's trades. He afterward determined that he had had enough of outdoor labors and in 1889 he opened a furniture store with a fine stock of furniture, wall paper, curtains, etc. His political preferences are with the Democratic party and he is an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His marriage in October, 1865, with Angeline Robarg, has been a happy one and this worthy and esteemed couple have been blessed with three children—Mary, Moses and George.



JAMES B. DELONG, a successful merchant of Lake View, Montcalm County, and a cousin of the Hon. Charles DeLong, who was United States Minister to Japan under Grant's administration, was born in Oxford County, Canada, September 26, 1838. He is a son of Gordon and Marietta (Moses) DeLong, natives of Dutchess County, N. Y. They were married in Canada and made that their home until

the time of the McKenzie rebellion, when they removed to Adrian, Mich., arriving there in 1838. Here the mother died soon afterward. Although engaged in the business of farming in Canada the father entered upon manufacturing in Adrian. He invested his means in property around Lansing about the time the capitol was being built there. He also owned large tracts of pine lands.

In 1849 Gordon DeLong crossed the plains to California during the gold excitement, and after some time located permanently in Mariposa, Cal., and remained there until his death which occurred at Fresno City in 1877. He followed mining successfully for many years and was a man of large means. His last days were spent on a stock ranch. He was a Republican in politics and his church relations were with the Methodist Episcopal denomination. He married in California a lady who bore the name of Clapsaddle. There were no children by this marriage. By his first marriage he had five children, namely: Wilmuth, Louis, James B., Charles and Ann E.

When twelve years of age James DeLong went from Adrian, Mich., to Winfield, Iowa, and clerked in a store for two years for David Harper, an old resident of Adrian. After leaving Winfield he remained in Iowa two years and then drove a team across the plains to Albuquerque, N. M., and also to Santa Fe. He then followed freighting from points on the Missouri River to forts on the frontier. After eight years of this work he went into the employ of the United States Government as wagonmaster, having charge of freights over the same line of roads. Two years later he went to Canada and from there to New York, and sailed for California via Panama. In Southern California he engaged in lumbering for eleven months, making his home at Mariposa, where his father lived. He returned to Michigan by way of water, but a year later returned to Mariposa and the next season started out on horseback, crossing the Sierra Nevada Mountains to Carson City, and thence to Lake Tahoe, Nev., where he operated a sawmill engine for one year. He then bought a third interest in and took command of a steamer, "Governor Blasdel," on Lake Tahoe, which he operated for three years.

Having sold out his interest in the "Governor Blasdel," Mr. DeLong entered the service of the Bank of California located at Carson City. He had charge of what was known as the mountain division, and was a general overseer to that concern at Carson City. After holding that position one year he came back East by rail, but a few months later returned to California and engaged in the real-estate business at San Diego. He remained there only a few months, just long enough to lose \$8,000 and returned East, visiting Canada and Adrian, Mich. He made a flying trip to the South American countries on board the steamer "Amazon." He spent a little while after this in San Francisco, and then returning to Michigan began clerking for Silas Dildine, of Ionia, Mich. Here he remained for eight years and then went into the lumber business at Hamilton, Ohio, managing a yard for Fargo & Hudson, of New York. Three months later he returned to Ionia, Mich., and then went to Kansas prospecting. After returning he engaged in the mercantile business in Ionia, in which he continued about three months. He then took up the same line of work in Lake View in July, 1878, where he has continued in the business to this day. He at one time took a trip to Japan with his cousin who was United States Minister to that court. He is a Republican, but has never dabbled in politics. He is connected with the Free and Accepted Masons and also the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The marriage of Mr. DeLong November 14, 1881, with Miss Orissa W. Dildine, of Easton, Ionia County, Mich., was an event of great importance in his life, and one which has proved a blessing from that day to this. Mrs. DeLong is a lady of unusual ability and good judgment, and one whose graces of manner and charming mind make her a delightful companion. She was born in Easton September 12, 1849, and is a daughter of William and Catherine (Reynolds) Dildine, natives of Pennsylvania and New York State respectively. Mr. Dildine was a lumberman in New York State and he came West with his family by team, landing in Ionia in 1843. Here he followed farming and ended his days March 4, 1889, on the same farm (known as Dildine's Corners) where he

first settled when he came to Michigan. He lived to complete a well-rounded-out four-score years. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-one years. This worthy couple had four children, namely: Jane L., Mrs. DeLong, William Jr. and James. Mrs. DeLong's mother had had two children by a previous marriage. No children have come to cheer the home of Mr. and Mrs. DeLong. Among the Western adventures of Mr. DeLong was his intercourse with the Sioux Indians. He traded for three years among them and kept a station for two years on the plains.



CLAYTON KIMBERLY, who is numbered among the young farmers of Ionia County, lives on the parental homestead on section 5, Otisco Township. He is a grandson of Silas Kimberly, who was born in Massachusetts, but came to Michigan when an old man and died in this State in 1846. The father of our subject was Silas Kimberly, Jr., who was born in Asfield, Mass., in 1814, and was a lad of fourteen years when he came to this State. He lived with his brother in Webster, Washtenaw County, until 1840, when he married and established a home of his own. In May, 1842, he located in Ionia County on the homestead three and a half miles from the town of Belding. Here he died February 26, 1889. He was Township Treasurer two terms, and while in the old Bay State was a militia captain. In politics he was a Republican and in religion a Congregationalist.

The wife of Silas Kimberly, Jr., and mother of our subject was born in Amherst, Mass., in 1822, and bore the maiden name of Lydia C. Goodale. Her parents were Levi P. and Harriet (Church) Goodale, natives of the same town as herself. Their family included besides Mrs. Kimberly, Harriet, Norman C., Elijah, Levi and Frederick W. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Silas Kimberly, are Hattie M., now residing in Chicago; George E., deceased; Clara E., a resident of Ionia County; Minnie A. and Esmond L., deceased; Clayton, whose name introduces these paragraphs; and Norman F., whose home is in Belding. George

entered the Union army in February, 1865, in Company H, Tenth Michigan Cavalry, and died October 4, of the same year, at Chattanooga, Tenn.

The eyes of Clayton Kimberly opened to the light February 20, 1858, on the farm on which he has continued to make his home. He is a young man of intelligence who received a good education in his youth and has increased his knowledge by judicious reading and an observation of the manners of men. He is a Republican in his political views and deposits his ballot with great regularity. Remaining as he has done on the farm, he ably assisted his father until the demise of the latter and now carries on the work for which he is well fitted by taste and training. He is now taking the best of care of his mother, who still resides on the home farm.



THOMAS E. SMITH. Among the residents of Ionia County Mr. Smith has met with fair success in business affairs; he has been identified with the affairs of Ionia Township, that county, for a number of years and is the possessor of a valuable tract of improved land here, comprising one hundred and five acres on section 3, and eighteen acres on section 30. His residence in the county dates back more than a score of years and during the greater part of this time he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. His father was a farmer and he became thoroughly conversant with the work in his early life, and using his knowledge with energy and zeal he reaped a due reward for his labors.

The parents of our subject were Sylvester and Frances (Vartie) Smith, natives of New York and the latter of English parentage. Two of the brothers of Sylvester Smith were soldiers in the War of 1812. The parents came to Michigan in 1848 and established themselves at Battle Creek, but in 1864 changed their residence to Ionia County, where they remained until called hence. The father died in 1868 and the mother in 1880. They were members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Smith was prominent in its work until his health

failed; he held the office of Deacon. He was a Democrat, staunch and true. While living in Calhoun County he served as Highway Commissioner and Justice of the Peace. Of the seven children that comprised the family of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Smith three are now living. Great pains were taken by their parents to give them good educations and thoroughly equip them for the battle of life.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Seneca, Ontario County, N. Y., May 13, 1828, and remained there until he was nineteen years of age. After completing the course of study in the common schools he attended an academy three terms. He came with his parents to this State and remained under their roof until he was in his twenty-fourth year, when he took possession of an eighty-acre farm in Calhoun County. He began his financial career at the bottom of the ladder, but steadily pursued his way upward. After operating his farm a few years, he sold it and moved into Battle Creek, where he made his home four years. He resumed farming then, and continued to reside in Calhoun County several years longer. He then came to Ionia County and until 1872 resided upon section 14, Ionia Township. He then bought the farm on section 3, he now owns, and occupied it until 1883, when poor health caused him to abandon farm work and he removed to Ionia City. He sojourned there until 1888, then came to his present home in South Ionia, on section 30.

In 1854 Mr. Smith was married to Mrs. Helen Biertry, a daughter of John Grodavant, of Calhoun County. That lady died in 1859, and in 1863 our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance. His bride on this occasion was Mrs. Gertrude Ward, a sister of his former wife. This marriage was blest by the birth of a daughter, Clara, who is now living in Ionia Township on a farm, being the wife of John Scheurer; she is the mother of one child. In 1886 death again entered Mr. Smith's home and deprived him of his companion. In October, 1887, he was again married, having won the hand of Mrs. Cynthia Wells, widow of J. R. Wells and a daughter of Daniel and Susan (Price) Davis. Her parents are of Welsh descent

and natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. They died in the Buckeye State a number of years ago, and are now represented by ten living children.

Mrs. Smith was born in Huron County, Ohio, October 27, 1835, and in her native State acquired a good education in the district schools. In 1855 she became the wife of J. R. Wells, of this State. He was a mechanic and a resident of Ionia, and was a brother of William A. Wells, a well-known citizen of Eaton County. Mr. Wells was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the faith of which he entered the valley of the shadow of death in 1887. He was the father of one child, now deceased.

The political faith of Mr. Smith is decided and his practice correspondingly earnest; he never fails to deposit a Democratic ballot. He has served his fellow-citizens as Superintendent of the Poor, and was Supervisor of Ionia Township three terms, including the years 1874, 1876 and 1877. He was at one time a member of the Grange and he is friendly to temperance and other moral movements. For forty years he has been connected with School Boards and for an equal length of time he has been a Sunday-school worker, laboring in the capacity of teacher or Superintendent. He is a Trustee and Deacon of the Baptist Church and his wife is identified with the same religious body.



CHARLES W. LUNG, a farmer on section 2, Orange Township, Ionia County, is the son of Warren Lung, a ship carpenter and farmer, born July 15, 1792, in Harrington, Litchfield County, Conn. His mother's maiden name was Cynthia Brown who was born February 20, 1803. The family of Mrs. Lung were among those who suffered in the tragic episode of the massacre of Wyoming. Her grandfather, Thomas Brown was a cripple and the father of twenty-one children. His wife Patience Brown escaped from the fort at the time of the massacre with six of her children, among whom was Daniel, Mrs. Lung's grandfather, then about eight years old. She was

not able to save all of her children and two of them, Thomas, Jr., and John were killed in the massacre. Thomas, the father, became separated from the family and was captured by the Indians who, however, suffered him to escape in consequence of his being a cripple.

After Gen. Sullivan's expedition against the Indians in 1779 Thomas Brown returned with the remnant of his family to the Wyoming Valley, and his son Daniel a few years later settled in Wyalusing, where his granddaughter Cynthia was born. Her grandfather is said to have been the last survivor of the Wyoming massacre. He was a plain, practical, temperate man, having many friends and no enemies, and died March 3, 1859, aged eighty-four years, five months and twenty-six days, with the assurance of a blessed immortality.

The parents of our subject were married January 10, 1822 and settled in Susquehanna County, Pa. There his father died November 11, 1845. He had owned and operated a sawmill besides his farm and working at his trade. A few years later his widow was united in marriage with Simeon A. Bolles. After his death in 1880 she went to reside with a granddaughter, and is now at the age of eighty-eight years, completing a well filled life. Mr. and Mrs. Warren Lung were the parents of seven children, four of whom are now living: George W. was born May 14, 1824 and now resides in Wilkesbarre, Pa.; Jesse, born June 5, 1837, practiced medicine in Brooklyn, New York.; Charles W., our subject; Eleanora, born February 26, 1844, is the wife of James Bevans, of Decatur, Ill. The mother of our subject was a member of the Baptist Church and his father an adherent of the Universalist faith and a strict moralist. He was a strong Abolitionist and was one of the "officials" in the "underground railroad" in the exciting anti-slavery days, before the war. He was in all points a conscientious and honorable man, being even at an early day a total abstainer from all ardent liquors.

Charles W. Lung was born November 13, 1839, in Rush Township, Susquehanna County, Pa. His father's death when he was only six years old deprived him of some advantages, chief among which was a liberal education. He began for him-

self at the early age of nine years, working upon a farm most of the time. When the Civil War broke out he was early inspired with patriotic devotion and on September 6, 1861, he joined Company D, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Infantry. His regiment was under Gen. Sherman and Admiral Dupont at the siege of Hilton Head, S. C. Just before the siege a part of his regiment was on the steamer "Winfield Scott," and in rounding Cape Hatteras in a storm they were nearly lost, on account of the unseaworthiness of the ship.

Our brave young soldier took part in the battles of Poncataigo, S. C., the second battle of Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Jackson, (Miss.), the siege of Knoxville, and the battle of White Sulphur Springs. At the close of his first term of service he took thirty days for a visit home and re-enlisted for three years, or during the war. In his second term of service he saw the smoke of battle at Annapolis, (Md.), in the Wilderness, at Cold Harbor, and in various skirmishes. He went on through this campaign with Grant until the siege of Petersburg began. He was at that time taken down with inflammatory rheumatism, and was confined in the hospital for a short time on David's Island, in New York Harbor. He went home on crutches for a thirty days' furlough and returning to Philadelphia was sent to the hospital at Haddington. Finding that he did not recover his health his friends arranged to have him transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps in which he did guard duty until discharged in August, 1865. For more than a year after his return home he had to walk on crutches. After purchasing one hundred acres of land in Rush Township and working it for one season he sold it and came West.

Mr. Lung came to Michigan and in the spring of 1868 bought the farm where he now lives. He married Ellen, a daughter of the Rev. William and Hannah (Wheelock) Frear, a descendant of an ancient and honorable Huguenot family. The earliest ancestor of whom the Frears have knowledge was the possessor of a large vineyard near the city of Lyons, on the River Rhone. He embraced the creed of the Huguenots and drew upon himself the violent persecution of the Romish Church. In the early part of the seventeenth century, emissaries of

the Church of Rome invaded his peaceful home to confiscate his possessions and to drag him if possible before a tribunal. Having received a friendly warning, he concealed himself, wife and son under an empty wine cask in the cellar. His enemies passed through the cellar, rolling out the full casks of wine and thumping on the empty ones to see if they contained liquor. He and his dear ones escaped detection and floating on a raft down the river took voyage on a vessel for New York, where they arrived in 1621-22. His son Alexander was the father of Hugo, whose eldest son, E. Hugo, married into the Jans family who are noted as the Trinity Church claimants. A son, Abraham, came to Wyoming Valley and married Mrs. Sarah Mitchell. These were the parents of the Rev. William Frear and the grandparents of Mrs. Lung.

Mrs. Lung was the youngest of twelve children and was born December 13, 1844. She received an excellent education. Mr. and Mrs. Lung came to Michigan after their marriage and made their home in Lyons for one year, but his health prevented his being active and he went back to the East and helped his brother in New York City during the summer of 1869, in the commission business. In the spring of 1870 he returned West and commenced work upon his present farm. His wife was taken from him January 17, 1881. They were the parents of four children—Jesse B., born in August, 1869, was drowned June 19, 1888, to the great grief of all his friends; Ruth, born May 29, 1871, is the wife of George Morice, living in North Plains Township; Cyril, born October 13, 1872; William Warren, born October 3, 1874. The younger children are now attending school at Lyons.

Our subject's second marriage which took place January 19, 1882, united him with Ruth Frear, a sister of his former wife, a highly educated lady who had received her schooling in Pennsylvania and had also taught there for some twelve years.

Mr. Lung's farm was solid woods when he took it, most of it now being improved. He has fine barns and outbuildings besides his handsome residence, has also set out orchards and small fruits and carries on mixed farming successfully. He is a Trustee and liberal supporter of the Baptist Church of which he and his family are members. He is a

member of Blue Lodge, Masonic order at Lyons, also of the M. W. Dresser Post, No. 100, G. A. R. at Lyons, in which he is now Post Commander. He has been Master of the Grange for three years in Orange Township. He is a strong temperance man and votes the straight Republican ticket, being interested in politics. He takes an active part in all educational matters and has been a member of the School Board.

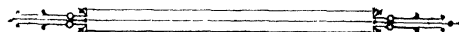


CHARLES H. FORD, who resides on a farm on section 13, Ronald Township, Ionia County, is a Canadian by birth and first saw the light April 15, 1844. His father, Henry Ford, a native of England, came to Canada when only seven years of age. He was in the British army for some time and after that came to the United States, locating first in Ohio and afterward in Michigan, near Detroit. In 1888 he made his home in Ronald Township, Ionia County. His mother was Mary Grondau before her marriage and was a native of Canada, where she met and became the wife of the father of our subject. This worthy couple both died in Michigan and were buried side by side in the North Plains Cemetery.

The parents of our subject were blessed by the birth of twelve children, ten of whom still survive, : Asa, Betsey, Mary Jane, Adeline, Caroline, Melinda, Emma, Lillie, Albert and our subject. The last named was only seven years old when he came with his parents to Ohio, and he did not attend school until he came to Michigan at the age of eight and one-half years. Here he went to school in Wayne County and was ten years old when the family removed to Ionia County. He did not leave home until he was about twenty-five years old as he found plenty of work to do in assisting his father and running a threshing-machine each fall. He was married in 1872 to Sarah Devol, a native of Michigan, born fourteen miles east of Detroit. She was the mother of two children—Eva May, who died in early childhood; and Lenna B., who resides at home with her father.

These children were bereaved of their mother in 1880, and she was laid to rest in the North Plains Cemetery.

In his early married life Mr. Ford rented a farm in North Plains Township and worked it one year. He then rented a place from Mr. Whitmore, where Mr. Hoople now lives, and the next year took a farm of George Heydlauff, which he worked for two years and then rented a farm of Mr. Orth in Ronald Township, which he worked for three years. The farm which he bought after this in North Plains was disposed of three years later for the one where he now resides. He has one hundred and fifty-three acres under excellent cultivation with a fine barn and other improvements, his house, which was built in 1887 costing \$1,400. He is doing a fine farming business and has an excellent lot of stock. His political convictions are with the Republican party and in his religious life he is connected with the Disciples Church.



GEORGE HOLLAND and his household are among the most intelligent and highly educated families in Sidney Township, Montcalm County. Our subject was born in Alden, N. Y., March 29, 1854, and is the son of George and Sarah (Rodgers) Holland. His mother was a Canadian and his father was born in Madston, Kent County, England, March 18, 1816. George Holland, Sr., had many educational advantages and was always earnest and active in securing the same for his children. He had seen much of the world, and inspired his son with an ambition to see something of it outside his home. The father was employed in early life by the great London firm of Taylor, Lord & Son, and was sent as book-keeper to the Cape of Good Hope. There he took charge of a trading-post for that firm. He spent seven years at the Cape, but when the Kaffir War broke out he shipped his possessions and followed them to Toronto, Canada.

At the age of six years young George was taken by his parents to Warren, Erie County, Pa., and there remained until the year 1865, when his

father came to Sheridan, Montcalm County, Mich. Here he purchased a claim of four hundred acres and moved the family thereon, our subject thus becoming a pioneer of this county. At the age of fifteen years the boy left home and began for himself, going into the woods and engaging in logging and lumbering. The sisters and brother of our subject are as follows: Charles H., whose sketch is written in this book, from Douglas Township; Sarah J., born September 11, 1849; Elizabeth, February 25, 1851; Frances M., September 3, 1852. Two of these sisters were engaged in teaching.

George Holland was married November 12, 1876, to Anna E. Compton, of Portland, Mich. They had one child, which they lost in its infancy. Our subject has spent much of his life traveling in this and foreign lands. He has visited over thirty-five States in the Union and has traveled in England, Ireland, Wales and France. He spent much time in London.

He of whom we write came to the place he now occupies in 1879, and began at once to clear of timber the soil on which he was to make his home. He has one hundred and eighty acres of land, eighty of which is cleared, and altogether it is one of the finest, if not the finest improved farm in the county. He has a handsome and substantial brick residence, two stories high and containing twelve rooms. He has fine barns and out-buildings. He and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the Congregational Church. He is an influential member of the School Board and holds the office of Justice of the Peace.



ANDREW J. HALE has been a resident of Ionia County about twenty-five years and during the greater part of that time has been engaged in agriculture in Orleans Township. A few years since he turned his attention to the sale of general merchandise in the town of Orleans, where he is still located. He carries a stock of about \$6,000, carefully selected in regard to the wants of the denizens in the vil-

lage and the adjacent territory. Mr. Hale is the owner of a valuable estate, consisting of two hundred and fifty-three acres, upon which stands a complete line of substantial farm buildings.

The father of our subject was Luther Hale, who was born in Pennsylvania, but spent the greater part of his life in New York. He came to this State in 1880 to spend the remainder of his days with his children and died in Sanilac June 13, 1888. His life-work was farming. He was married in New York to Laura Dutcher, a daughter of Seneca Dutcher and a native of Massachusetts. She is still living at the ripe age of seventy-five years, and her home is in Saginaw, this State. The children born to the worthy couple are two in number—Henry and Andrew.

The gentleman whose life it is our purpose to outline was born in Trenton, N. Y., June 2, 1839, and remained at home until he was about fifteen years of age. He then went to work on a farm by the month and continued his labors until he had \$300, then entered Carey Collegiate Seminary, where he studied for three years. In the meantime he spent his vacations in teaching, and after the period mentioned he went to Olean where he attended a school a year. When his studies were completed young Hale came to this State and found employment in the lumber camps in St. Clair County for a year. He then went back to his native State and during the ensuing two years devoted the winters to teaching.

October 2, 1862, Mr. Hale was married to Mary J. Haughton, a daughter of Dimick Haughton, of New York. For three years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hale remained in the Empire State, then journeyed westward and established their home in Ionia County, Mich. They took possession of a sixty-acre farm in Orleans Township and the husband devoted himself to its improvement and cultivation, and until 1885 was also engaged in buying, breeding and shipping stock. He then began buying and shipping fruit, having an evaporator, by means of which he enlarged his work and built up a successful trade. In the meantime he increased his landed estate to its present extent and placed it in first-class condition. Since he engaged in mercantile pursuits he has given his busi-

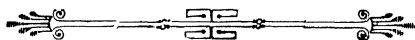


J. B. Noble.

ness the close attention that he formerly bestowed upon other interests, and his financial affairs are managed with prudence and tact.

The substantial foundation upon which the affairs of Mr. Hale now rest has not been without decided effort and his experience has not always been favorable. When he came to this State his capital consisted of a team and wagon, with which he drove from Detroit to Orleans. He had been here but a year and a half when he was burned out and lost his entire possessions except the land, which was not yet the source of an excessive income. He had previously been drained of his cash by his hiring a substitute when drafted into the army. Whatever misfortune befell him made him the more determined, and success eventually crowned his efforts.

Mr. Hale has always been a Republican. He has served acceptably as Highway and Drainage Commissioners and for a number of years was Township Superintendent of Schools. His education, experience as a teacher, and interest in the rising generation especially qualified him for a prominent position in educational affairs. He and his wife have made many friends since they came hither, and their children—Elmer B., Perry F. and Ole B.—have their own places in society.



JOSEPH C. NOBLE, one of the progressive farmers and stockmen of Ionia County, is the gentleman whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, and who is pleasantly located on section 16, Otisco Township. His property here consists of one hundred and seventy acres of well-developed land, upon which may be seen a comfortable farmhouse and such outbuildings as are made necessary by the work carried on upon the estate. In former years Mr. Noble was a breeder of Holstein cattle, but at present his chief attention in stock-raising is given to Oxford Down and Shropshire Down sheep. Mr. Noble was reared to farming and in his youth he became well acquainted with all that is necessary to make the calling a successful one, and it is his constant

aim to increase his facilities for work and to place upon the market crops and stock of a high grade.

Going back three generations in the paternal line we come to Medad Noble, of Revolutionary fame, who also fought in the second struggle for release from British tyranny. The next in direct line of descent was Levi Noble, a native of Blandford, Mass., who made an early settlement in New York. There he married Aurelia Steele and reared six children, the eldest of whom was Horace, father of our subject. Levi Noble was first a Whig and then a Republican in politics. He was a Master Mason, and he and his wife belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Horace Noble was born in Richmond, Ontario County, N. Y., and when a young man worked on a farm. He came to this State in 1844, a short time after his marriage, and established his home in Hillsdale County. Thence he removed to Indiana, and from that State returned to New York. In 1853 he again came to Michigan, and from that time until his decease, March 27, 1890, he resided in Otisco Township, Ionia County. At the time of his death he owned one hundred and seventy acres of good land. He was a member of the Grange. In his earlier years he was a Republican, but he died a Democrat. He was married in Naples, N. Y., June 20, 1844, to Martha, daughter of Hezekiah and Hannah (Clayson) Roberts. Mr. Roberts was born in 1791, and his wife in 1792; he died in Arkansas in 1873, and she passed away in 1859. Mr. Roberts was a cabinet-maker and also a farmer. His family consisted of six children, she who became Mrs. Noble being the fifth in order of birth.

The subject of this biographical notice is the only surviving member of his father's family, which once made a happy band of three. He was born in Honeoye, Ontario County, N. Y., December 31, 1850, and was a child of some three years when his life in Michigan began. After completing the course of study in the common schools he spent one year in the High School in Greenville, thus becoming quite well educated in all practical branches. For a twelvemonth he was in the employ of Emerson Peck, a storekeeper in that town, but with that exception he has devoted himself to

agricultural work. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-five years of age.

Some months after leaving the parental home Mr. Noble was married to Miss Jennie Buttolph in Portland, February 20, 1877. The parents of the bride were Judson and Lydia (Alger) Buttolph, natives of New York and Canada respectively, who are represented elsewhere in this ALBUM. Mrs. Noble is a well-informed and well-bred lady, a strong believer in the faith of the Baptist Church and an esteemed member of society. Mr. Noble belongs to the Republican party. He has been Secretary of the Grange for six years and has served the citizens of the township as Overseer of Highways.



ADAM S. TURNBULL, a prominent resident on section 24, Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of Monroe County, N. Y., where he was born September 24, 1823. His father, Robert, was a native of England, and his mother Helen (Reid) Turnbull, was born in Scotland. About 1825, our subject went with his parents to reside in Waterloo County, Ontario, Canada. His parents who were early settlers there, both died in the same county. Four of their eight children are now surviving: Adam S., James, Isabella (the widow McDonald); Mary (the wife of Charles Macomb). Both parents were members of the United Presbyterian Church, in which they ever found a field of usefulness.

Our subject has been a lifelong farmer, having spent his boyhood on the old home farm in Ontario, dividing his time between the common schools and the home farm. He had to walk three miles back and forth to school, and had scant advantages when there, but it has been his life-long aim to make himself intelligent. His marriage took place in Ontario, October 18, 1854. He was then united with Jane Laing, who was born in Monroe County, N. Y. May 1, 1835. She is a daughter of Walter and Jane (Renwick) Laing. Her father was of Scotch birth, and her mother an Englishwoman. When seven years old she removed with her par-

ents to Brant County, Ontario, where both father and mother died. Her parents had four children, three of whom are living: Mary, wife of J. T. Renwick; Walter; and Mrs. Turnbull.

In the spring of 1855, the season succeeding their marriage, the young couple migrated to Michigan. They resided in Kent County for a number of years, and came to Ionia County in the fall of 1864. Mr. Turnbull is the happy possessor of a finely improved farm of seventy acres. He has accumulated a handsome property, and in his life work has been ably seconded by his devoted wife, whose good judgment and sound sense have been a tower of strength to him continually. They are both warm-hearted Christians, and find their church home in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The Republican party finds in him a warm adherent and strong supporter. He is a man well-informed on matters of public interest, and ever wide-awake to the promotion of movements for the welfare of the community.

In the prime of life Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull are enjoying the fruits of a life well-spent. Our subject has been successful in life. He is a good and judicious financier, possessed of excellent business qualifications and executive ability, and commands the respect of the business community. Having been an exhaustive reader, he has become well-informed on topics of general interest. We are pleased to represent him in this ALBUM, among the many prosperous citizens of Ionia County, and we predict for him as great success in the future as he has had in the past.



WILLIAM PATTERSON. The boy pioneers of Michigan look back in manhood upon numberless hardships encountered and privations endured, but their retrospection is tinged with a romantic light. The hunting and fishing of those days, the expeditions and adventures were dear to the boyish heart, and bring a smile to the face of the mature man. Our subject, who is a citizen of Sheridan, Montcalm County, passed through such experiences. He was born in

Trumbull County, Ohio, June 11, 1842, and is the son of Thomas and Mary (Anderson) Patterson. His early life was spent at home with his parents, and his educational advantages were meager indeed. His father was a molder by trade. When ten years of age, William came with the family to Michigan.

The Patterson family made their home for one year in Ionia County, where the father engaged in molding, and in March, 1854, they came to Montcalm County, and settled three miles from Sheridan, on section 24, Fairplains Township. Here in the wilderness they cleared and improved a new farm. Many hard times were endured during the ensuing year, and not seldom food was scarce. There were no roads through the woods, nothing but Indian trails to guide the traveler. A farm of forty acres was made out of this forest land. Here the family remained.

In 1866 William Patterson came to the place he now owns in the suburbs of Sheridan, and took a small lot, this he gradually increased until he now has a comfortable farm of sixty-nine acres, all well-improved, where he resides. He also has forty-three acres on section 35, in Sidney Township. In the early days he often made shingles and hauled them to Ionia and Greenville, selling them for \$1 a thousand. When they had raised their first crop of corn they were puzzled how they could make it available for food, as there was no mill within reach, but the father improvised a mill out of two logs, and with this they ground their meal, and sweeter johnny cake was never eaten.

On August 19, 1862, Eliza Skells, a daughter of Spencer Skells of this county, became the wife of our subject. To them have been given four children, as follows: William S., born February 8, 1864; Cassie, July 7, 1876; Ina, March 20, 1879; Ray, August 22, 1885. All these children are living at home with their parents, and they have all received a good education.

When William Patterson came to this place there was no town here, and it was several years before any railroad came through. His vocation for the first twelve years was lumbering and milling, but since that time he has been engaged exclusively in farming. He is a Democrat in politics, and has

filled with honor to himself and advantage to his constituents the offices of Constable, Town Marshal, Highway Commissioner and President of the village of Sheridan.



STEWART TOWNSEND has a fine farm on section 32, Ionia Township, Ionia County. His father, Charles Townsend, a native of Connecticut, was also a farmer, and was born in 1800. The family is one of the old New England families, the grandfather of Stewart being Charles Townsend, a native of Connecticut, and a miller by trade. His wife, Margaret, was born in Germany. Their son, Charles was one of the early pioneers of Monroe County, N. Y., where he died at the age of eighty-four years. His wife followed him at the same age. She was Laura Goodenough, a native of Connecticut. Her parents were Aaron and Patty Goodenough, he being a native of Vermont and she of Connecticut. After marriage they made their home first in Monroe County, N. Y., and later in Niagara County, where they remained until their death, both living to the advanced age of ninety-two years.

The parents of Stewart Townsend resided in Monroe County, N. Y., until 1845. At that time his father came West to look up a location for a new home, which he found in the fall of 1846, and removed his family to section 5, Orange Township. He secured forty acres of wild land and timber. Here he made his permanent home and proceeded to improve it. He first built a log shanty, and afterward a log house, wherein was established a happy home. He added twenty acres to the original farm and before his death had improved it all. When he came here Indians were living all through this region and there were plenty of wild animals. He died in 1866, his wife having preceded him two years to the other world. They were the parents of fifteen children, nine daughters and six sons, ten of whom are now living.

Our subject was born April 18, 1828, in Monroe County, N. Y. Although he was eighteen years of

age when he came to Michigan, he took his first schooling here, in the first school organized in this region. Later he went back to New York and attended school there for one winter. He began working for himself at seventeen years of age, although later he assisted his parents for a season. When he arrived in Michigan his sole pecuniary fortune was twenty-five cents. During his visit to New York when he was nineteen years old, he worked on a farm when not at school. After a year spent there our subject returned to Michigan and bought the first forty acres of land he ever owned. It was located in Orange Township, on section 4, where Alfred Stanton now lives. He pre-empted this land which was then all unimproved and sold it with another forty acres for forty acres on his present farm, giving a bonus of \$110. He proceeded to improve this new farm and added to it from time to time. He now owns one hundred and seventy-seven acres there and forty acres in Orange Township.

Our subject was united in marriage January 4, 1851, with Miss Eliza Tuttle, a daughter of Nelson and Sophia (Pangborn) Tuttle. (See sketch of William Adgate for history of Nelson Tuttle). Mrs. Steward Townsend was born December 14, 1833, at Palmyra, Ohio. After her marriage she and her husband moved into a log house upon his farm and began improving the place. He has with his own hand put the whole of his farm under the plow. In 1869 he built his present residence, having erected a barn three years before, and all improvements having been made by himself. He carries on mixed farming, his stock being all of good grades. This couple are the parents of six children. The eldest, Andrew, born December 21, 1851, was married to Annie Scribner. They live in Orange Township and have a family of five children. The second son, Nelson, was born March 16, 1855. He is now a widower. Henry was born July 16, 1857, and married Ella Tubbs, with whom he lives in Schewa Township; they have three children. Emery was born November 19, 1863; Ed S., March 19, 1865; and their only daughter, Martha Ella, November 17, 1867. They gave to all these children a good education. Andrew taught school for six years; Ed S. and Emery have

been students at a business college. The former is now a stock buyer. Miss Martha is a good musician and makes her talents in this direction of great service to the church. She is also an artist in colors, showing great ingenuity and taste. Mrs. Townsend is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Emery is well-known as a member of the Masonic Order. Andrew, who has always taken an interest in politics and belongs to the Democratic party, has been for some time a member of the School Board. Ed S. and Emery are both Prohibitionists, the former taking great interest in politics.

When this family emigrated Michigan was then in the Far West and transportation was very different from our present rapid transit. They were transported from their old home in Monroe County, N. Y., by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by boat over the lake to Detroit. There they took passage in "prairie-schooners" and drawn by a yoke of oxen reached their new home. Mr. Townsend soon went back to Farmington and moved his uncle Wilkinson by the same yoke of oxen. Many hardships were experienced by these early settlers. Money was scarce and they had to encounter severe trials but bravely struggled through them all. After his marriage our subject worked by the day at cradling at six shillings (seventy-five cents), mowed for five shillings (sixty-two and one-half cents), and chopped wood in June from daylight to dark for fifty cents. For some time he chopped wood for Benjamin Harter. He had to travel three miles each way and work at the rate of two shillings (twenty-five cents) per cord, one shilling of which he received in groceries the other in money. After the day's work he used to go down to the Grand River bottoms and find an old white cow, whom he employed as a pilot. He knew that she would find her way home in the darkness and holding her by the tail he followed in her wake. Having arrived at home he was prepared with a good appetite to devour his supper of johnny cake, potatoes and pork. Occasionally he indulged in a little butter. He then did his night chores in order to feel ready for bed. Up in the morning before daylight he chopped a little wood for the use of his wife and was off to his work again. The first tax he ever

paid amounted to \$1. His last one was \$100. He has his home free from debt, all as the result of his own labor, besides having given to his children over \$8,000. There was no bridge over Grand River when he came to this county and none between here and Grand Rapids. He had to draw himself across the river by a chain.

Mr. Townsend's life in Ionia County is an exemplification of what will result from hard and conscientious labor. His sons and daughters are worthy of the honest pride which he feels in their character and work. His fine farm and excellent buildings, show plainly the hard work which he put upon them.



MONT VERNON OLMSTEAD is one of the old timers in Orange Township, Ionia County, and has held for many years the responsible position of Township Supervisor. He is one of the very few now living who came here early in the '30s, and his conversation is delightfully full of reminiscences of the early days among Indians and wild animals, and tales of the hunts in pioneer times. His father, Lewis Olmstead, was born in Norwalk, Conn., May 10, 1774. He was a merchant in his day but in old age retired from business. He belonged to the Volunteer Reserve Force in Vermont in the days of the Indian wars but was not called out. He was the son of Jesse Olmstead who was born in Connecticut in 1750. The mother of our subject was Hannah (Hurlbut) Olmstead, born in Connecticut in 1776. Ebenezer Gilbert, a brother to Mont Vernon Olmstead's paternal grandmother, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his great-grandnephew has now the powder horn worn by this hero when he was killed in battle. The horn bears the date and inscription of that fatal day; Harlem Heights, November 9, 1776. The parents of our subject married in Vermont and resided there, the father being a merchant in the town of Richmond. In 1812 he kept a grocery and provision store in Burlington, Vt., at the time the American army was

there. He later sold out his business and located on a farm in his native State, and ended his days there in 1844, his wife having preceded him ten years before. Of their ten children, all are now deceased except our subject.

Mont Vernon Olmstead was brought up according to strict religious principles, his mother being a Methodist and his father one of the old-school Presbyterians. His father was a prominent man in his locality, being active in politics as a staunch Whig. Our subject was born August 4, 1816, in Burlington Township, Vt. Having received a common-school education, he remained at home until just before reaching his majority, and besides assisting his father worked out by the month and took jobs upon neighboring farms. Upon coming to Michigan alone in 1836, he worked on a farm at Lyons for two years for James W. Tabor. Then buying a piece of land all unimproved in oak openings, he settled upon it in 1843. He improved forty acres of it and built a log house and log barn. In 1850 he traded it to Thomas Dewey for his present farm. He has since lived here on section 1, having taken this farm when about thirty acres were cleared and the present buildings were upon it. He now has eighty acres, having deeded his other farm of one hundred and sixty acres to his two sons. When he reached Lyons, Mich., he had just twenty-five cents in his pocket. This he gave to an Indian to put him across Grand River. He therefore entered Lyons entirely unincumbered by personal wealth, but has been a very hard working man all his life and has cleared thirty-five acres more of his eighty-acre farm. There were about eight hundred Indians around here when he came, and plenty of wild animals. Hunting was both a diversion and an occupation in those days and he has killed large numbers of deer and wild turkeys and has trapped many a wolf. He has killed as many as three bears in one fall.

The subject of this sketch was wedded in April, 1843, to Abigail McKelvey, daughter of John McKelvey, who came here in 1834, from Oakland County and settled in Ionia Township, where he lived until his death. He and his wife were the parents of four daughters and five sons who all grew to maturity. Mrs. Olmstead was born March

6, 1821, in Rochester, N. Y. After marriage the Olmsteads settled upon their raw farm in Lyons Township and both worked long and hard to get a home and bring up the family. Mrs. Olmstead died March 21, 1855. This couple were the parents of five children—Helen, now widow of Henry Kise, of Portland Township, has seven children; Julia is deceased; Lewis; Hannah; Malvin is married to Eleanor Wig, they live in Portland Township with their two children. They were all given a good common-school education and Julia taught school for some time. Mr. Olmstead has always taken an active part in public affairs and in organizations for the good of the community. He used to belong to the Sons of Temperance. He is also a member of the Grange and was for some time its Treasurer. In politics he was a Whig and later a Greenbacker and is now a member of the Democratic party. His first vote was cast in 1840 for William Henry Harrison. He has been a member of the School Board for years. He has been Highway Commissioner for six years and Supervisor of Orange Township for twenty years. He has frequently been a delegate to county conventions and once to the State convention at Detroit. On the temperance question he has always stood squarely and is still staunch and strong there. He has never taken a drink of whisky in his life. He had eight hundred bushels of rye at one time in an early day, and although he had offers from distilleries here he refused to sell it to them and traded it for cattle. He is now seventy-five years of age, and until last year when he suffered with inflammatory rheumatism he has always been a strong robust man.



DANIEL R. HARTWELL comes of sturdy New England stock. His father was Thomas Hartwell, a native of New Hampshire, born September 22, 1784. His grandfather was Ashael Hartwell, who died February 3, 1844, at the advanced age of ninety-three years and five months. This old Revolutionary hero served under Gen. Washington, and knew him personally, his having talked with the "father of

his country" being handed down as one of the pleasant and honorable family legends. The wife of Ashael was Abigail (Walker) Hartwell, and she became the mother of four children: Abigail, born March 15, 1778; Prudence, July 3, 1780; Thomas, September 22, 1784; Josiah, March 19, 1787.

Thomas was the father of our subject. His wife was Phœbe (Rogers) Hartwell, a native of New York. Her father was Daniel Rogers, born February 14, 1769. His wife Annie (Grinnell) Rogers, was born March 3, 1768. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Phœbe, born January 1, 1792; Daniel B., January 30, 1794; Acha, January 19, 1796; Sarah, January 15, 1798; Ruth, December 5, 1800; Anna, March 16, 1803; Jane, May 10, 1805; Henry D. September 29, 1807. All of these children lived to be over eighty years of age, but have now all departed this life except Henry D. Phœbe, the eldest was the mother of our subject. Grandfather Rogers was a teamster in the War of 1812. He died May 8, 1859. His good wife preceded him ten years, dying October 9, 1849.

The parents of our subject were married November 5, 1808. After residing at Stillwater, N. Y. for a time, they moved onto a farm in Northumberland Township, Saratoga County, N. Y., where they completed their lives. He served in the War of 1812 as a teamster, hauling goods from Albany to Rochester. She died March 8, 1873. He survived her until May 20, 1881, when he departed at the extreme age of ninety-seven years. This good couple became the parents of six children: George W., born August 3, 1809; Orville C., March 6, 1812; Daniel R., September 24, 1815; Tylee D., August 24, 1819; Phœbe Ann, February 17, 1829; Sarah Jane, December 4, 1832. Four of them are now living.

The subject of this sketch was the third child of this family and born in Northumberland Township, Saratoga County, on a farm. He received a district school education and lived at home till fifteen years of age. He was sick for two years, which interrupted his schooling, but after his recovery he resumed attendance at school. For two years he worked at the carpenter's bench, then went upon the Erie Canal in 1837 in the engineering department. He continued in this work until 1844, when

he removed to Michigan and located land on section 8, Berlin Township, Ionia County. He however returned immediately to New York and engaged in fishing and hunting. In January, 1843 he went to Onondaga County, and began work as a clerk in a store. In June, 1844, he began clerking in Danville, N. Y., but in November of that year he came again to Michigan and put a man to clearing his farm. He came to this place via Battle Creek and from that point on foot to Bellevue and in the same manner to this place. It was very muddy and there were no houses on the way except a very few scattered ones. He walked in all about three days. The same year he went back to Battle Creek and January 1, of the next year he went to work in a pail factory at \$9 a month. Here he remained until September 1, when he began clerking in a dry goods house. He remained with the first firm for nine months and then went to work for Arnold & Marsh, in whose store he continued until September, 1845. He now began to experience trouble. He was sick all winter and when he was able to be at work again he took a contract to build six miles of railroad grading on the Michigan Central Railroad west of Kalamazoo. With this he would have made a good success, had it not been that he lost money on account of a partner's crimes and was consequently \$3,000 or \$4,000 behind. He was so reduced in circumstances that he had to borrow money to get home to New York, where he again went to work on the Erie Canal.

In April, 1860, Mr. Hartwell removed to his present farm on section 3, Berlin Township. Here he has one hundred and sixty acres and his wife has forty acres on the same section. He has one hundred acres of fine land under the plow. His present handsome residence was built in 1882 at a cost of \$2,500. He married, October 17, 1854, Alice A. Scott, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Clemenson) Scott, both natives of Cambridgeshire, England. They came to America in 1834, and settled at Seneca Falls, N. Y., where the wife died. He moved to Lockport, where he died in 1864. They were the parents of eight children, three of whom are now living: William, still resides at Lockport; Mrs. Hartwell was the second child; and John, the younger son, also lives at the old

homestead at Lockport. Mrs. Hartwell was born November 7, 1827, in England, and came to this country when still quite a child.

Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell are the happy parents of two children—Lizzie, born November 18, 1859, is the wife of Edward Patrick—they live on this farm and have two children; Phœbe, born June 25, 1863, is the wife of Philo Benedict—they live in this county and have one child. Mrs. Hartwell is an active and useful member of the Christian Church. Mr. Hartwell has served as a member of the School Board and has done useful and thorough work as Road Overseer and also as Drainage Commissioner. He has been a Granger and has taken an active interest in politics, always voting the Republican ticket.



GEORGE F. PHELPS. Ionia City contains no more pushing business man than the one above named, who has been engaged in mercantile pursuits here since 1876. He has won success by unflagging energy, business tact and honorable dealing, and made hosts of friends by his affable, courteous manners. He was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., December 22, 1839, and in the paternal line is descended from an old Connecticut family. His father, Israel E. Phelps, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., and his mother, formerly Mary A. Leland, in Massachusetts. In 1865 they removed to Lenawee County, this State, where both died, the husband December 11, 1884, and the wife August, 1879. Their family consisted of five children: George F., Charles, Israel, Jr., William and Ezoa.

The father of our subject was a farmer and amid the surroundings of agricultural life the son grew to the age of eighteen years. He then became a clerk in the establishment of Ingham, Emrick & Morley in his native county, and after a year with them spent an equal length of time studying in the Plattsburg Academy. He began his mercantile career in Jordan, Onondaga County, and subsequently continued it in Weedsport. In 1865 he established himself in Hudson, this State, whence he came to Ionia County in 1874. For two years

he was engaged in business in Muir and he then removed to Ionia. Circumstances made the establishment of a branch house seem desirable and in 1888 one was opened in the east end. Both stores are in a flourishing condition and success is crowning the efforts of Mr. Phelps, who well deserves the good opinion held of him by his customers.

In Hudson, October 30, 1866, Mr. Phelps was united in marriage with Miss Carrie E. Moore, daughter of George W. Moore, who is now a resident of Medina, Lenawee County. Mrs. Phelps is possessed of fine social qualities and refined manners, and her grace and intelligence help to draw around them a fine circle of friends. They have two children, William M. and Morrison, the former his father's partner in business and the latter a student.

Mr. Phelps is not one of those men who crave public honors, although he always takes an interest in the good of the community and does his part toward advancing it. He has served as an Alderman one term, but has not otherwise been connected in any official capacity with the affairs of the city. Politically, he is a Republican with liberal tendencies.



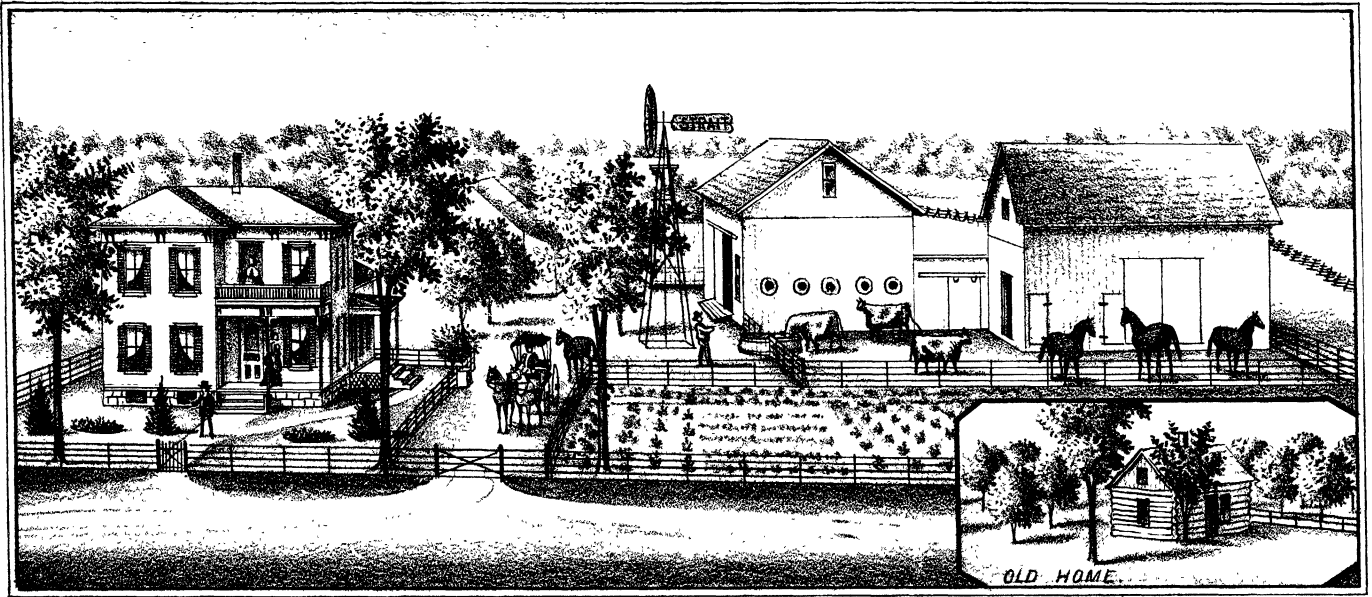
WILLIAM CARBOUGH is the son of George Carbough, a shoemaker and farmer of Pennsylvania. The family is of German origin, but came to America long before the Revolutionary War and settled in Pennsylvania. An uncle of our subject, John Carbough, fought all through the War of 1812 under Gens. Scott and Brown. His mother was Magdalena (Forman) Carbough, also a native of Pennsylvania. Her father, also of German descent, lived to be over ninety years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. George Carbough were married in Pennsylvania and resided for twenty-six years in Virginia, near Harper's Ferry. They moved to Ohio in 1840, settling first in Stark County, afterward in Wayne County, and buying a farm there. After living there for eleven years they came to Michigan October 24, 1855, and made their home in Ionia County, and on June 11, 1856, they set-

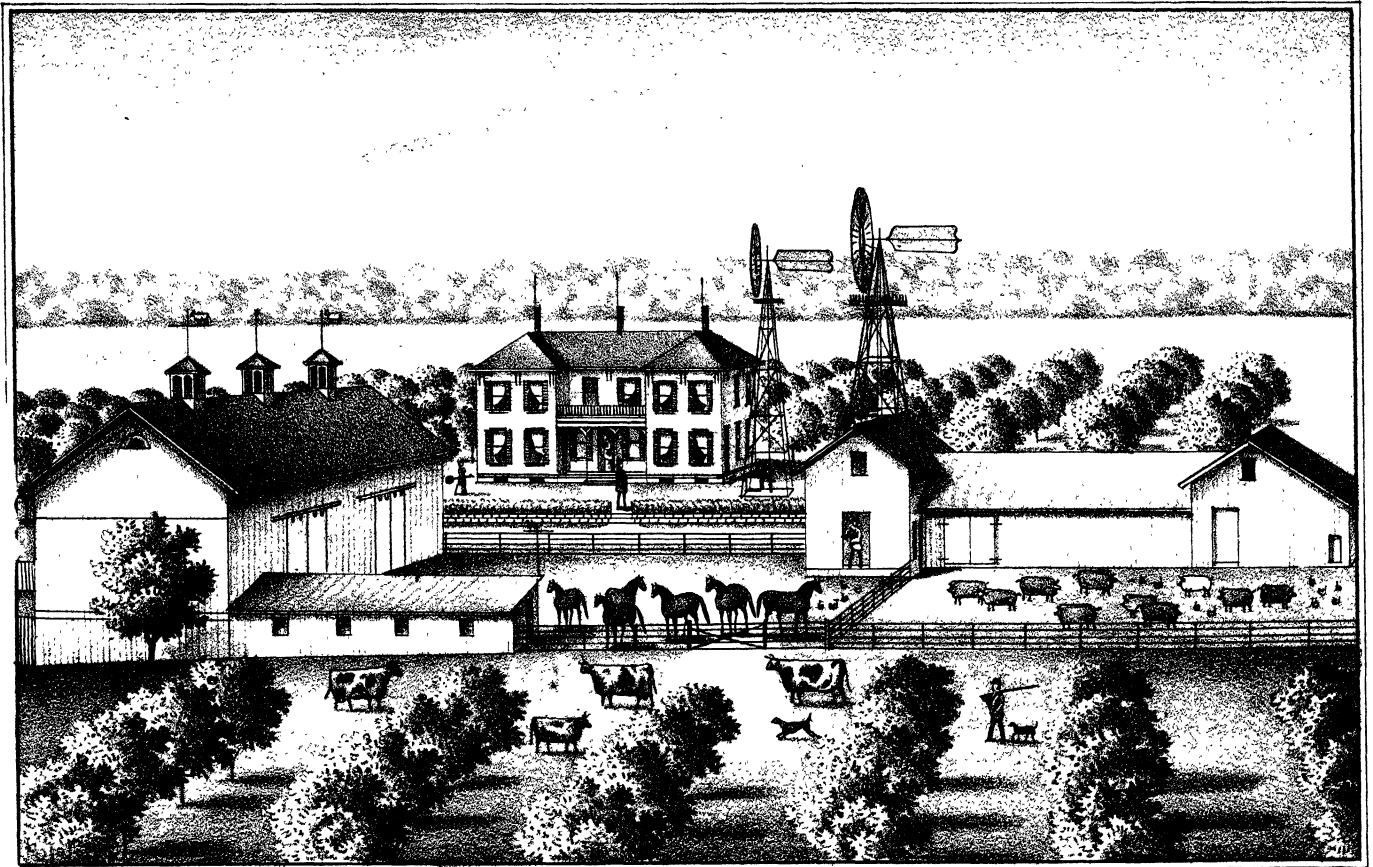
tled on section 26, Orange Township. The father had forty acres of wild land, upon which he built a log house and his boys cleared the land. He died September, 1861, his wife surviving him eleven years. Of their eight children, five are now living.

William Carbough was the seventh child of his parents and was born August 25, 1835, in Virginia. He was twenty years of age when he came to Michigan, having received a common-school education in Ohio. After coming to this State he took special charge of his aged parents who lived with him during the remainder of their lives and leaned upon him as their strong staff. He has added to his original forty acres until he now has two hundred and twenty acres all told, one hundred and ninety of which is finely cultivated. All that he added to his farm was wild land and timber, so that it was necessary to clear it. In 1873 he replaced the old log house with his present fine residence which was erected at a cost of \$1,500 besides his own labor. His splendid barn was built in 1875 at a cost of \$1,600 besides his personal work. He has added to it a shed and has a geared windmill.

A building 52x12 feet is divided into icehouse, pump tank and milkroom, with one room for grinder, another for corn sheller, both of which machines are operated by the geared windmill. Under the same roof he also has a shop and connected with it a tool shed 62x20 feet, a corncrib, and a hog pen 24x32 feet in dimensions. The sheep shed connected with the large barn is 14x60 feet. The big barn measures 40x100 feet, its stone basement furnishing stables for sixty head of horses and cattle. There are thorough and systematic water connections all through the barn and out-buildings. Mr. Carbough carries on mixed farming, raising both grain and stock. His cattle are Holstein thoroughbreds; his sheep are Shropshire, his horses are mostly draft horses but he has a special pride in a fine Hambletonian colt three years old, which already shows signs of good speed. He feeds out all the grain he raises on one hundred and ninety acres. His orchard covers ten acres and is principally in apple trees with some peaches and pears. A view of this fine estate appears on another page.



RESIDENCE OF E. W. NORTH, SEC. 16. EASTON TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM CARBOUGH, SEC^s 26 & 27. ORANGE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

Mr. Carbough has lived on this farm for thirty-five years, and during all the time has devoted his thought and labor to its improvement. He took it rough and wild, and by his unremitting industry has brought it to its present fine and productive condition. He is a brother of Mrs. William Keefer. (See sketch of Mr. Keefer.) He was united in marriage July 23, 1857 with Miss Elizabeth Gates, a daughter of Fellows, and Mary (Williams) Gates and sister of Elias Gates, whose biography is to be found elsewhere in this ALBUM. Mrs. Carbough was born May 30, 1840, in Erie County, N. Y., and received a common-school education in Canada before coming with her father to Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. William Carbough are the parents of eight children: George F., born February 2, 1859, married Jennie Kneel, and lives in Orange Township. They have one child of their own and have adopted one. Mary M., born December 6, 1860, and wife of Otis Ferguson, lives in Orange Township and has one child. Elizabeth Caroline, born January 10, 1863, is the wife of Frank Allerton. They have one child and also reside in Orange Township. Ionia Belle, born July 19, 1865, is the wife of Charles Kent; they have two children and make their home at Odessa. William J., born September 29, 1867, is now a student in the law department of the State University, having graduated in the Portland High School in the Class of '90. The twins Grant and Wilson were born October 1, 1872, and Wilson died May 31, 1889. Emma was born November 10, 1877. These children have all received a good common-school education.

Mr and Mrs. Carbough are consistent members of the Free Will Baptist Church, he being Superintendent of the Sunday-school, Treasurer of the church, a Trustee and on the building committee. The children were all brought up to attend the Sunday-school. Mr. Carbough has been a member of the local School Board and he and his wife both belong to the Patrons of Industry and the Grange. He has been Treasurer of the latter organization. He is a member of the Masonic Order, Blue Lodge and Chapter, and is one of the Trustees of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Masonic

Benefit Association, both Class A and Class B. Local Republicans have often made him their delegate to conventions, as his interests in public affairs and his intelligence and independence make him a leader among them. His sons and daughters are active in temperance societies. He was Constable and Road Commissioner for many years in the township of Orange, was twice candidate for Supervisor, and was elected as Drainage Commissioner but did not serve. He has operated his farm so as to secure the best results, and his enterprise and industry have been crowned with remarkable success.



EZRA W. NORTH. One of the pioneer landmarks of Ionia County is to be seen on the estate of Mr. North on section 16, Easton Township. It is the log cabin which he built in the woods early in the '50s' and which is now used as a store-room for machinery. It is 16x24 feet in size and when put up was considered quite a large house. It was necessary for Mr. North to cut his own road to the farm, as, when he took possession, it was surrounded by a dense forest and was largely covered with timber. It is now one of the well-developed and productive tracts, so many of which are to be seen by the traveler in the county, and each of which testifies to the endurance and persistence of those who opened up this country.

The recollections of Mr. North do not extend farther back than his residence in this State, although he was born in Genesee County, N. Y., February 15, 1829. He comes of the old Dutch stock of the Empire State in the paternal line, and on his mother's side traces his ancestry back to the Scotch who settled in the North of Ireland after religious persecutions had nearly depopulated that country. His parents were John and Diana (Doty) North, who during his early infancy left their native State to found a home in Michigan. They located in Oakland County, where they resided until their son Ezra was twelve years old. They then came to Ionia County, spending a short time in Berlin Township and then taking possession

of land on section 10, Easton Township. In coming to this county our subject, who was bare-footed, helped to drive a herd of cattle, and upon arriving at his destination, blood was freely flowing from his feet, so severe had been his journey. As their home was in the woods and the township had but few settlers, our subject may be considered one of its earliest pioneers.

The parental family was a large one and is now represented by the following children: Thomas, Ezra W., Frederick A., Charles, Orville and Mary. The latter is the wife of the Rev. H. R. Hawley, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now stationed at Lake Odessa. All are living in this county except Charles, whose home is in St. John's. The good mother was not taken from her family until 1889, but the father died in 1876. He was School Inspector of Easton Township a number of years, and politically was a Jeffersonian Democrat.

The rudiments of an education were acquired by our subject in the early district schools of this State, and his advantages were necessarily inferior to those afforded in the same region to-day. As was generally the case with students of that time he was well grounded in the few branches taught and prepared to extend his knowledge through the avenues open to all who wish to gain information. He grew to maturity in Ionia County and did much pioneer work, even before he took possession of the one hundred and sixty acres he now occupies and operates. In common with his old associates, he experienced the ups and downs of life, but by industry, perseverance and economy, secured a competence, so that in his declining years he has no corroding anxiety to interfere with his enjoyment of the good things of life.

Mr. North was first married to Miss Mary Gilbert, who died leaving two children: Frederick, now deceased, and Hattie, wife of J. H. Lampkin, of Easton Township. She was a lady of erudition and taught seventeen terms of school in New York and this State. In 1866 our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Helen F. North, who still shares his fortunes and looks after the comfort of his home. This estimable lady was born in Wayne County, this State, October 22, 1835, her parents being Josiah and Susan (Arthur) Stanbro. Her

parents were from New England, her mother being a native of the Pine Tree State. They came West during the early days of this State and established their home in Oakland County. Our subject and his wife have one son, Nelson A., and they have reared an adopted son named Marell. Nelson A., married Lottie Young and they have one child, a daughter. Mrs. North has shared in many of the trials and hardships through which her husband has passed, and has found many occasions on which to display a self-sacrificing spirit and the hospitality which has become synonymous with the term "early settler."

In his political affiliation in later years Mr. North has been a Prohibitionist. He has served his fellow-men as Justice of the Peace and School Director, as well as by taking a part in enterprises projected for the benefit of the community. He and his wife are consistent Christians and for a quarter of a century Mrs. North has been an ardent Sunday-school worker. Indeed her life has been consecrated to her family and good works. Both husband and wife will live in the memories of those who know them, long after their faces shall be seen no more on earth.

A view of Mr. North's fine farm with its principal buildings is presented on another page.



THOMAS O. HARTWELL resides on section 8, Berlin Township, Ionia County, and is the son of Tylee D. Hartwell and Julia (Arnold) Hartwell, both natives of the Empire State. His parents resided in New York till they came to Michigan in 1855, when they settled on this farm. His father at the time of his death owned three hundred and twenty acres here and property in Saranac and Ionia besides. He cleared off in all about one hundred and fifty acres and put up all the buildings himself. His parents belonged to the Baptist Church; his father was both Trustee and Deacon in the First Baptist Church at Saranac for many years. For further particulars as to the parents see sketch of Mrs. Julia E. Hartwell.

Thomas O. Hartwell was born December 12,

1860, on the home farm. He received his schooling in Ionia and is a graduate of the Ionia High School in the Class of '81. After graduating he removed to his father's farm and took charge of it, his father having died the year previous. His mother is still living in Ionia. Our subject now owns half of the farm of three hundred and twenty acres and has cleared and improved some twenty-six acres. He carries on mixed husbandry, raising both grain and stock for the market.

In 1882 Thomas Hartwell was united in the happy bonds of wedlock with Rose Mackey, daughter of Washington and Anna (Bergh) Mackey, natives of the Empire State. Mrs. Mackey died several years ago. Her widowed husband still resides at the old home a retired farmer. Both their children are now living. Mrs. Hartwell was born in February, 1858, in New York and received a common-school education. To her and her husband have been given two children—Jennie and Tylee D. They are members of the Baptist Church at Ionia and Mr. Hartwell is on the School Board. He is a member of the Grange and of the Patrons of Industry. He takes an interest in politics and votes the Democratic ticket, but in local elections casts his ballot for the best man. He was for some time School Inspector of Berlin Township. He is temperate in his habits and highly respected by all who know him.



NOAH D. KOUTZ, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Christlieb) Koutz, resides on a finely appointed farm on section 5, Lyons Township, Ionia County. He was born in Cumberland County, Pa., January 30, 1833. His father was a farmer and cooper by trade and his grandfather, Daniel Koutz, was a private soldier in the War of 1812. His parents resided in Cumberland County for some years after their marriage, and then came to Ohio whence they emigrated to Michigan in 1854. They traveled in a prairie schooner, camping out on the way. The new home was in a log house in Sebewa Township, Ionia County. Here they resided for about four years, when they came to Lyons Town-

ship, where our subject now resides and spent the remainder of their days. They both lie at rest in North Plains Cemetery, the father having departed this life in 1882 and the mother in 1878.

The parents of our subject were blessed with ten children and they were so happy as to see them all grow to manhood and womanhood. Those now living are George W.; Rachel, Mrs. J. W. Mabie; Barnhart, James; Barbara, Mrs. Elisha Trowbridge and Searight. Three of their sons served in the Union army during the Civil War and two of them, Edmond and Israel, died in the service.

Our subject received his first schooling in Ohio, where he accompanied his parents to their new home when only three years old. He remained at home until his first marriage, which took place, October 26, 1859. Sarah E. Scott was the maiden name of the lady who joined her life to his. She was born and brought up in Ohio. They were the parents of three daughters: Mary V., Mrs. Charles D. Nichols; Alice E. and Fannie E. These daughters lost their mother January 4, 1871. His second wife was united with him July 30, 1871. She was a native of Nova Scotia, Elizabeth A. Nickerson by name. She was born September 6, 1849, and when four years old accompanied her parents to Canada, from which she removed to Michigan in 1865. She is the third child of her parents James and Sarah (Cassie) Nickerson. One child was born to this union Malvina E. Immediately after the marriage of this couple they took up their home on the farm where Mr. Koutz now lives. A log house 24x16 feet made their first home. The present residence is an improvement on that and was built in 1884, at the cost of \$1,800. One hundred of Mr. Koutz' one hundred and twenty-seven acres are under cultivation. He pays much attention to sheep culture and owns ninety-seven head of fine grade sheep. He has a fine farm entirely free from debt and is greatly respected in his neighborhood. He is warmly interested in the Prohibition movement. He has been School Director and Pathmaster. The first winter that he located on his farm he furnished lumber from it for the building of the railroad bridge. In those days much wild game abounded, and being a good shot he killed many deer and some bears. He and all his family are earnest

and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the local organization of which Mr. Koutz is a Trustee. He is a member of the Board of District Conference and has gone twice as a delegate to the yearly conference. He is a liberal contributor to all church needs and takes an active interest in Sunday-school work.



D B. FOX. Among the men engaged in business in Edmore, Montcalm County, mention should be made of Mr. Fox, whose reputation for honesty and fair dealing is unexcelled. He is doing a good business in the sale of feed, hay, coal, lime, cement, and all kinds of seeds, fertilizers and land plaster. In addition to this he operates a farm of one hundred and fifty acres adjoining the corporate limits of the village, and raises hay, cereals and stock. Besides his outlying property Mr. Fox owns a residence and lots in town. He has lived in the State more than thirty years and has done considerable work in developing farm lands and in manufacturing timber products. He has, therefore, been connected with two of the most important interests of the State and has gained an extensive acquaintance among those who are engaged in farming and lumbering.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was born in the Old Dominion and with a brother made a settlement on the Ohio River at a point now covered by the city of Cincinnati. There Absalom Fox, father of our subject, was born and reared on a farm. When grown to manhood he located near Lebanon, in the same county, and improved property on which he lived until his decease. He married Amanda Ingersoll, who was born in the Empire State and was a daughter of Ralph Ingersoll, who became an early settler of Dundee, Mich., where he and his family gained prominence. Mrs. Fox died in Clinton County, this State. She was an earnest Christian, belonging to the Presbyterian Church, and endeavored to equip their three children for the battle of life with high principles and aspirations.

Our subject, who is the eldest of the parental

family, was born near Lebanon, Ohio, February 28, 1824. He was four years old when he accompanied his mother to Reading, N. Y., where they spent a year and then went to Kirtland, Ohio. There they remained a twelvemonth and were neighbors of Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet. Mr. Fox well remembers seeing the foundation of the Mormon temple which was erected in that place. Thence his mother removed to Huron County, Ohio, where the years from 1838 to 1858 were passed. On a farm in the woods the lad grew to manhood, and his years from his boyhood were devoted to industrious efforts to clear the land and make his way in the world. He was but twelve years old when he began driving a team of horses or yoke of oxen in the logging business, and on more than one occasion he was obliged to sleep in the wagon as night came on before he reached home. Mother and children had one hundred acres of land and the burden of its improvement rested on the shoulders of our subject.

In 1848 Mr. Fox secured a faithful companion and sympathizing helpmate in Miss Emily C. Shelly, who was born in New York. Her father, David Shelly, was one of the early settlers in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. In 1858 Mr. Fox disposed of his interests in the Buckeye State and came to Michigan, traveling with a team and wagon. He finally located near Elsie, Clinton County, buying a farm of one hundred acres and a village lot, on each of which he built a residence. He improved his farm and besides carrying on agricultural work ran a sawmill and shingle mill. He became the possessor of an additional one hundred and sixty acres of good land. As one of the pioneers of that locality he was instrumental in advancing the interests of the county of which for more than a score of years he was a prominent citizen. He held official positions in the township and was well known and influential. In the fall of 1880 he disposed of his interests there and came to Edmore, a new place, just taking its position among the growing villages of Central Michigan. A year later he started a feed store and some time afterward added to the commodities he handled the various articles that have been mentioned.

Mr. Fox is a believer in and supporter of the

principles of the Republican party, and keeps himself well informed regarding the issues of the day. He is interested in the success of the party but is not a politician in the ordinary acceptation of the term. He has been village Trustee one term, but is not otherwise connected with public affairs, although he rejoices in all that promises to be beneficial to the community. The children sent to himself and his good wife were five in number, two sons and three daughters, and all are deceased but the daughters, Mary A. and Martha E. The elder daughter is with her parents; the younger who is an artist of more than ordinary ability, is teaching in Grand Rapids. Husband and wife are held in good repute by their acquaintances and have made many sincere friends in the localities in which they have lived.



DAVID H. ENGLISH was the first white male child born in Boston Township, Ionia County. He is a general farmer and stock-raiser and resides on section 21, Boston Township. He was born May 21, 1842, in a log house on the farm where he now has his home and is a son of Edson and Abigail (Willard) English, who were among the very early settlers in Ionia County, where they both continued to reside until called to the better land.

The subject of this life history received his early education in the primitive school of the neighborhood and attended one term at the High School at Saranac, after which he entered the Normal School at Ypsilanti. He remained there only three months as on account of illness he was obliged to return home. He never returned to school, for like many young men in those days, school life was cut short by the call of duty to our country. He enlisted August 5, 1862, in Company I, Twenty-First Michigan Infantry.

Mr. English, in defense of the old flag took part in the battle at Bentonville, March 19, 1865, in which terrible struggle more than one-third of his company was killed and wounded at the first charge.

He acted as Duty Sergeant, and was promoted to Orderly Sergeant and then to Lieutenant. He served with credit to himself. He was taken sick for loss of sleep, and rather than go to the hospital chose to be placed in a boarding-house where he paid his own expenses until he recovered. He took part in a large number of battles and skirmishes. He marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea and back through the Carolinas north to Washington where he attended the Grand Review at the close of the war, and received his honorable discharge June 8, 1865, at Detroit, Mich.

The subject of this sketch returned home after the close of the Rebellion and purchased seventy-six acres of land from his father which he cultivated, living at home for a year. October 23, 1866, his marriage was solemnized with Miss Sarah A. McCormick, of Campbell Township. She had been teaching school for about five years, a line of work which she began when she was only fifteen years old. She taught four or five terms in Boston Township. Soon after their marriage Edson English erected a new house on the farm, into which he moved his household, leaving the old home for the young couple who resided here until shortly before the death of the father. He had purchased about forty acres at two different times previous to this and a short time before the father's death bought the new house and the small acreage belonging thereto and then took possession where he has since resided.

The farm is now all under good cultivation and finely improved. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres and is well stocked with a good grade of all kinds of live stock. Our subject makes a specialty of Short-Horn cattle, some of which are registered animals. He started out in life with a pair of strong arms and an earnest determination to succeed, and he has steadily worked his way upward to success, all of which is due to his own honest endeavors and that of his good wife. David H. English is one farmer among many a thousand in this particular: that he has kept a book account of all his transactions since the day of his marriage. He can tell at the end of a year every cent paid out and taken in; every bushel of grain raised and sold; of wheat consumed; everything that has been pur-

chased for the household; all stock sold and to whom. In fact he has a complete record of his transactions since 1866. He has never been a witness nor a jurymen, has never been sued nor sued anybody. In the period of his lifetime he has seen all the wild land cleared and improved; and fertile farms and comfortable homes have taken the place of what was at his earliest remembrance a wilderness and the home of Indians and wild animals. Towns and villages have sprung up, railroads have been introduced and the county has grown populous with a happy and prosperous people.

In politics Mr. English is a stalwart Republican and has always supported the principles of that party. He is a charter member of the Grange and has been President, Vice-President and Marshal of the Ionia District Agricultural Society. He and his good wife are both active supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for two years Mrs. English was the Superintendent of their Sunday-school. Their union has been blessed with only one child, Myrtie M., born November 26, 1871. Many years ago a young girl, Mary Acker, came to their home on foot and alone; she was fourteen years old and had started out to make her own way in the world and hearing of our subject and his wife came to them. They took her in and cared for her, giving her a home and instruction, and training her in domestic duties. She grew to be a dutiful and useful member of their household, and proved trustworthy in every way. She resided with them twenty-three years until her marriage with Isaac Clough, with whom she now lives in Vermontville, Eaton County, this State. Mr. and Mrs. English are well known throughout the whole county and are held in the highest esteem by all.



WILLIAM H. COE. To any one desirous of hearing pioneer experiences from one who has taken part in them, a conversation with the gentleman above named would prove entertaining and instructive. He has passed the greater part of his life on the frontier and even

after coming to Ionia County in 1862 he did the work of one who was opening the way for civilization. He located on section 8, Sebewa Township, in a dense woodland at a considerable distance from neighbors. The strokes of his ax rang out on the clear air as he felled the trees on his forty-acre tract and the hum of busy industry increased month by month as the place was gradually brought to a fine state of improvement and cultivation. Mr. Coe subsequently added eighty acres to his estate, but this, however, has been divided among his children.

Mr. Coe comes of the old Connecticut stock, his parents, Miles and Betsey (Cada) Coe, having been born in that State, but reared in Vermont, whither both ancestral families removed early in the present century. Miles Coe was a lad of eleven years when he went to the Green Mountain State, in which he made his home until 1835. He then started west with his family and reaching Lake County, Ohio, spent the winter there, and in the spring continued on his way to Steuben County, Ind., where he lived almost to the close of his life. His death took place in Ligonier, Noble County, in 1866. His wife, the mother of our subject, had passed away in April, 1827, when her youngest child was but three years old. The names of her sons and daughters are Harvey, Orra, Lois, Abner, Edward, Mary and William H. The second wife of Miles Coe bore him two children—Nubia and Miles. Of the entire family five survive and two are residents of this State.

Abner Coe, grandfather of William H., enlisted in the Colonial army when quite young and served to the close of the war, fighting under Gen. Washington and being one of the number present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. He lived many years afterward and during his latter days drew a pension. His younger brother, Oliver Coe, was in Hammer's defeat in the Indian War in the Hoosier State, and died in Ohio many years later. The wife of Abner Coe was a daughter of Col. Ledyard, the commander of Ft. Griswold, which was captured by Arnold the traitor after an heroic defense. When the Colonel handed his sword to the conqueror the latter asked who commanded the fort and received the reply, "I did once;" Arnold

answered with an oath "You don't now," and ran his sword through the Colonel, following up this base murder by the massacre of sixty of the surrendered garrison.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Newark, Caledonia County, Vt., July 22, 1824. He was eleven years old when he accompanied his parents to Indiana and there remained until he was twenty when he went to his native State, sojourning a year. He made the entire trip on foot, traveling about half the distance, three hundred and fifty miles with a drove of cattle which he then disposed of. Upon his return to Indiana he farmed and worked at the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he learned at the age of twenty-five years. His removal to this State has been already noted and the work that he has done here. His life has been an active one, although he has been in poor health much of the time. His educational advantages were meager, but he obtained a foundation upon which he has built a superstructure by continual reading, history being his chief delight. He not only peruses newspapers but reads many books and has a mind well stored with information.

Mr. Coe was married to Miss Mary John, daughter of Eleazur and Eleanor (Close) John, February 19, 1857. The bride's parents were pioneers of Richland County, Ohio, where she was born May 29, 1826. Her name is second on the family roll, the others being Thomas, Philip, Elizabeth and David. Four of the household band became residents of Michigan and all are yet living except Thomas. Mrs. Coe remained in her native county until she was twenty-seven years old, when she came to this State, making her home with her brother Philip and sister Elizabeth until her marriage. To her five children have been born whose record is as follows: Alfred H., born May 8, 1858, is with his parents; Judson E., born December 14, 1859, married Marietta Snyder and lives in Orange, Ionia County; Alden J., born April 27, 1862, married Abbie Parker and has one child—Glenn; George C., born April 5, 1864, married Elizabeth Smith and has one child—Leona May; Elizabeth, born August 26, 1866, is still at home.

For many years Mr. Coe has been Pathmaster and much of the time he has been School Assessor

or Moderator. Fully realizing the value of a good education he has always been much interested in school matters and earnest in working for good results. At general elections he votes the Democratic ticket, but when local offices are to be filled he decides in favor of the man best qualified. He and his wife and several of their children belong to the Presbyterian Church in Sebewa, of which he is Deacon and his son Judson an Elder. Mr. and Mrs. Coe possess the hospitable spirit of the typical pioneers and the hungry are never turned from their door unfed. Mrs. Coe is a notable housewife, with a thorough knowledge of what constitutes good cheer for the inner man. The many good traits in the characters of Mr. and Mrs. Coe are appreciated by their acquaintances, and their friends are many and true.



WILLIAM DALLAS PLACE. Strange as it may seem there are people who do not think book knowledge a benefit to farmers. To such, a visit to the home of Mr. Place, near the city of Ionia, would be a surprise, as they would find this gentleman to be one of the most practical of farmers, as well as a man of liberal education, and would see that he uses the theoretical knowledge gained in the schools to such good purpose that he is prosperous in a high degree. He now owns and operates five hundred acres, from which he has secured some of the largest crops harvested in Ionia County.

John Porter Place, father of our subject, was born in Oswego, N. Y., whence he came West in the year 1835. After erecting a sawmill near the present site of the county seat and opening up an Indian trading station, he announced to Daniel Moore that he was going back to New York for a wife. Moore asked, "What is wrong about my going for the same purpose?" So it was agreed that they should go together, although Mr. Place had already nearly finished his courting and Mr. Moore had not begun. The latter was not long in finding a young lady to share his destinies and after a double wedding four happy-hearted people

started for the Western wilds. They drove from Oswego to Detroit with a four-horse carriage owned by Mr. Place, who sold one team in Detroit for \$600, a large price for those days. Mr. Place carried on business at the Indian trading post, and having built the first mill in Ionia he subsequently put up the first one in Muskegon. He was Sheriff when all the western part of Michigan was embraced in one county, and held various other public positions. The date of his decease was December 15, 1865. His true-hearted wife, whose maiden name was Laura Blake, survived until April 17, 1887. Their children were eight in number, four living to maturity, but the only present survivor is our subject.

The gentleman of whom we write was born September 25, 1847, in a house built by his father before his marriage, and the two front rooms of which he used as an office. Around this old homestead cluster all the associations of his boyhood and youth and also of his later years, as he is now occupying it. After his preliminary course of study he attended the Agricultural College at Lansing, and was graduated from that institution in 1868. When but seventeen years old he began teaching and for fourteen years he followed the profession during the winter seasons. In 1870 he was Principal of the Lyons school. As a pedagogue he was efficient in imparting instruction and judicious in discipline. In 1869 he began the study of law in the office of Dodge & Thomas, but owing to the illness and death of a brother and also a sister, was compelled to abandon his project and return to the farm which was left to his care, and he has continued his work thereon, adding to the extent of his operations by purchasing two hundred and fifty acres adjoining soon after assuming control, and other tracts more recently. The first year he harvested fourteen hundred bushels of wheat. He still raises that cereal, but he is also engaged in the dairy business.

On the farm of Mr. Place has been platted what is known as the Highland Park Cemetery. A tract of one hundred acres is set aside for the grounds and thirty are already laid out, graded and adorned. It is beautifully located and the love of Mr. Place for the æsthetic is evidenced in the work he has

done here. The cemetery is his especial pride and his office is a model and like its occupant, always cheerful.

Mr. Place was made Township Clerk immediately after attaining to his majority and was retained in the office fourteen years. In 1885 he was elected Supervisor and in 1888 County Clerk, and to the latter office he was re-elected in 1890. As an official he is not only painstaking in the discharge of the duties pertaining to his station, but is affable and courteous toward all with whom he is brought in contact. Politically he is a Republican. He is interested in the social orders and holds membership in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Pythias and Patrons of Industry.



FRANK HOPPOUGH. Among the young farmers of Ionia County Mr. Hoppough has good standing as one who is energetic in the pursuit of his vocation and honorable in all business matters connected therewith. His home is on section 23, Orleans Township, where he has one hundred and twenty acres of land, ninety-five of which are under cultivation. He gives his attention to general farming and stock-raising, and has a well regulated estate, to the improvements upon which he has added a substantial house and barn.

The birthplace of Mr. Hoppough was Ontario County, N. Y., and the date of his arrival upon the stage of human events, April 30, 1850. His parents, Decker and Lydia (Noble) Hoppough, are represented elsewhere in this ALBUM. He remained with them until he was of age, then began working on a farm by the month, and has always followed the vocation which he adopted in youth. He was but twelve years old when he came to this State and he resided in Otisco Township until 1876, when he removed to his present location.

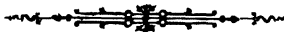
In Greenville, Montcalm County, April 22, 1874, Mr. Hoppough was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Howell. This intelligent and energetic lady is a daughter of Uriah and Linda (Vanhoosen) Howell, and her parents were born in New York



I remain yours
Edward Bellamy

and Canada respectively. Mr. Howell came to Oakland County, this State, when a boy. He works at the trade of a wagon-maker. He has but two children—Jenny, now Mrs. Hoppough, and Ada. Our subject and his wife are the happy parents of two sons—Lee and Guy.

As Highway Commissioner Mr. Hoppough has been doing well for the traveling public during two terms of service. His political affiliation is with the Democratic party, and he is interested in the prosperity of the Patrons of Industry, in which he holds membership. A reliable citizen, industrious farmer and intelligent man, he is well spoken of by those among whom his lot is cast.



EDWARD S. BELLAMY. The portrait on the opposite page represents an honored citizen of Ionia County, who entered into rest February 5, 1891. A representative pioneer of the Grand River Valley, he was formerly prominent in the affairs of Easton Township, and was well known as a man of great public spirit, especially interested in the development of the community where for so many years he resided. Few of those who were influential in business affairs when he came to the county in the fall of 1854 are now residents here. Many rest in the adjacent cemeteries, while here and there in other cities and States may occasionally be found one of the number. A generation of active men and women of the Ionia County of those days has passed away, and new faces and new interests have taken their places.

None occupied a more conspicuous place in the affairs of Easton Township than Mr. Bellamy; for the death of none were more words of sympathy expressed. He did well his part in whatever department of labor he was placed. His sympathetic heart and pocket-book were ever open to the lightening of others burdens. He gave freely as he had been prospered, and although he has now forever passed from the scenes with which he was so closely identified, his name is remembered with affection and his memory revered among the pioneers of the county.

Mr. Bellamy traced his ancestry to worthy

patriots of Colonial days. His great-grandfather, and his grandfather, Justus Bellamy, were soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and participated in several of the battles in New England and the middle Colonies. Aaron Bellamy, the father of our subject, owned a vessel which was employed by the Government on Lake Champlain during the War of 1812, and was lost in the struggle, proving a total loss to the owner, as from some cause the Government neglected to pay him. Edward S., of this sketch, was born in Vermont, March 6, 1813, and was a son of Aaron and Rilla (Stowell) Bellamy, of Welsh descent. When a young man he went with an older brother to Ontario, Canada, and there made his home.

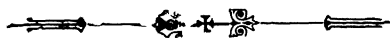
On March 15, 1837, Mr. Bellamy was united in marriage with Armena Brown, who was born in Ontario, Canada, September 28, 1811. She was the daughter of Nathan and Susannah (Wilbur) Brown, both of New York State, whence they removed to Canada in 1800. Her brother Luther was a soldier in the War of 1812, in which conflict her father also served. Her grandfather Brown served as an officer in the American army under Washington's command. Of the union of our subject and his estimable wife eight children were born, of whom four survive, namely: Nathan E., Alice E.; Nancy A., (Mrs. Horace Rowley) and Frances A. The four who were called away from life were Henry H., Joel A., Franklin and Lucius.

Mr. Bellamy was a miller by trade and followed that business exclusively in his younger days. Not long after his marriage he emigrated to Akron, Ohio, and from there went to Seneca County, the same State, where he resided several years. From Ohio he emigrated to Kent County, Mich., and remained there until the fall of 1854. He then came to Ionia County, and settled on section 27, Easton Township, where he lived until his death. He built one of the first mills at Grattan, Mich., and also what is known as the Bellamy gristmill on his farm in Easton Township. This was the first gristmill in Easton Township, and was operated by him for many years; it is now in charge of his son Nathan E. He operated a sawmill here a number of years in connection with the gristmill.

In the death of Mr. Bellamy the county lost one

of her best citizens and most public-spirited men. He left a valuable estate of one hundred and twenty acres of land to his family, this being the product of his life labor and a standing monument to his industry, perseverance and good management. In religion he was a Spiritualist; politically he voted for the best man irrespective of party, and was a man that was firm in his convictions of what he thought was right. He was formerly a member of the Grange. His widow resides with her children on the old homestead, and enjoys the esteem of the whole community.

Nathan E. Bellamy, son of our subject, was born January 25, 1842. He was a mere boy when he came here with his parents and here he was reared to manhood and educated in the district schools of the township. He is a man of excellent judgment, possessing a good store of information and deeply interested in the progress of the township. Politically, he was formerly a Republican having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, but is now a Democrat. Another son, Henry H. was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting October 2, 1861 in the First Regiment of Engineers and Mechanics, in Company E. He served some eight months and was killed in Alabama, being picked off, as is supposed, by a guerrilla sharp-shooter. Nathan E. Bellamy is classed among the intelligent, enterprising and public spirited citizens of Easton Township and is meeting with good success financially.



PHILIP DUTT. Ionia County is the home of a large number of agriculturists who have been successful in a financial sense and have gained that which is better than silver or gold—the genuine respect of all with whom they have had dealings. Among those who have become prominent in Keene Township is Phillip Dutt, a farmer and stock-raiser living on section 29. He is a native of Northampton County, Pa., born July 11, 1829, and his parents were John and Sarah (Schoeb) Dutt, both of German lineage. He is the eldest in the parental family. He pursued his studies in the district schools until he was fourteen

years old, when his father died and he was thrown upon his own resources for a livelihood. He remained in his native county working at what he could find to do and spending as much time as he could in school.

When he was eighteen years old Mr. Dutt began an apprenticeship to a cabinet maker whom he served for three and a half years, subsequently following the trade several years. In 1855 he came to this State and established himself in Grandville, Kent County, in which town he worked as a carpenter and millwright a score of years. In the fall of 1877 he removed to the farm he is now occupying. The tract consists of eighty acres under good cultivation and supplied with such farm buildings as are usually to be seen upon the property of prosperous and intelligent men. The dwelling is of pleasing architectural design, is substantial and commodious, and the hospitality of which it is the center is well known for miles around.

The lady who so ably presides over the fine residence became the wife of Mr. Dutt March 1, 1851, the marriage ceremony being performed at her home in Pennsylvania. She bore the maiden name of Maria Kiefer and her parents were John and Margaret (Best) Kiefer, natives of the Keystone State and of German extraction. Her paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier. She has three brothers and a sister living: Jacob, John, Charles and Sarah, wife of Alfred Snyder. Her parents were members of the German Reformed Church, and their children were instructed in good principles and useful habits. Mr. and Mrs. Dutt are the parents of five children, named respectively: Emma, Iva, Andrew W., George and Fred. Emma is the wife of Byron Phillips and Iva of Fred Loucks.

Mr. Dutt was clerk of Wyoming Township, Kent County, three years, and has been Township Treasurer for an equal length of time since he came to Ionia County. He is possessed of genuine public spirit, sound integrity, and a desire for the best interests of his family, as is shown in the good education he has given to his children. That he has been industrious and economical is proved by his having accumulated a good property without hav-

ing had any one to start him in life. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and are honored and active members of society, and their children are succeeding well in life.



WILLIAM M. WEMP, M. D., occupies a prominent place among the medical practitioners of Montcalm County and is the beloved physician in many a household where his presence has brought healing or his sympathy given consolation in time of sorrow. He is by nature and education well fitted to adorn the profession he has chosen, having good judgment, what is called a cool head, and being prepared for his work by study in the best schools. Although he has been located at Edmore only since the fall of 1889, he has a large practice, so that his time and strength is taxed to the full, and he has only limited opportunities for carrying on the study in which he takes delight.

Dr. Wemp combines in his veins the blood of two distinguished nationalities, the German and the Scotch. His paternal ancestors were originally from Germany, but the New World has been their home for several generations. His grandfather, Michael Wemp, was born in New York and adopted the occupation of farming. He located on Amherst Isle, near Kingston, Ont., and there his son Barnabas, father of our subject, was born and reared. In 1870 the latter removed to County Kent and bought wild land which he improved, and cultivated for some time. He then retired to Chatham, where he still resides. He held the position of Councilman and belonged to the conservative party. He is an active member in the Methodist Episcopal Church and a Class-Leader in the congregation with which he is connected.

The wife of Barnabas Wemp bore the maiden name of Janet Scott and was born at Gallisheals, Scotland, near Edinburgh. She is a daughter of William Scott who emigrated from his native land to Canada and made a settlement in Glengarry. There he improved a tract of land and gained a standing among the well-to-do men of the vicinity.

He was a stanch member of the Presbyterian Church. His daughter Janet was married in Canada and became the mother of eight children, the oldest of whom is the subject of this biographical notice. She is still living and is now sixty years old.

Dr. Wemp was born on Amherst Isle, April 12, 1847, and passed his boyhood in sporting on Lake Ontario and pursuing such studies and farm labors as comported with his strength and age. He had entered his teens when his parents removed to the neighborhood of Chatham, and there he had better educational privileges than the district school of his native isle afforded. He finished his course of study in the Chatham High School and laid the foundation for the scientific knowledge he afterward acquired. When he became of age he began an apprenticeship to a druggist in Chatham, Edwin C. Rolls, and devoted three years and a half to the thorough mastering of pharmacy. He then took charge of a drug store in Whitby which he conducted several years.

In 1880 Dr. Wemp opened a drug store in Detroit, Mich., and during the three years in which he carried it on he studied medicine under Dr. D. McLeod. He next sold the establishment and entered the Detroit Medical College, where he spent three years in careful and thorough study, after which he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Not content with the knowledge he had gained, the newly fledged physician went to New York City and took a polyclinical post-graduate course, making a specialty of diseases of the eye, ear and throat. At the conclusion of the course he went to Spokane Falls, Wash., and opened an office. He practiced as oculist, aurist and laryngologist for more than a twelvemonth, and then removed to Salem, Ore., where he carried on regular practice. On account of the health of his wife he returned to Detroit and after sojourning in that city a year he located at Edmore as successor to Dr. L. A. Roller.

The estimable lady who has charge of the household economy in the dwelling of Dr. Wemp became his wife in Kingston, Ont., in 1873. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Margaret Brown and was born on Amherst Isle, at the foot of Lake Ontario.

The happy union has been blessed by the birth of three children—Edith M., Clara L., and Ernest E. Notwithstanding the demands upon his time by his large practice, Dr. Wemp shows an interest in various affairs which the citizens of Edmore project, and he is considered publicspirited, as well as honorable in the various relations of life and thoroughly upright in character. He is identified with the Masonic Lodge in Edmore and one of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Detroit. In politics he is a Democrat and his religious home is in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as Health Officer of Edmore and is a member of the Union Medical Association.



FRANK W. CLARK. The village of Lake Odessa, Ionia County, affords a field for the exercise of business ability in all the important branches of commercial life. The subject of this biographical notice is engaged in the sale of general merchandise there and has also other interests which add to the well-being of the place. He has lived in Odessa Township since infancy and has witnessed much of its growth, and in his connection with its prosperity has become known to every man within its bounds. Looking back to the period of his earliest recollections, he sees a wild tract with here and there a clearing and some rude buildings. Gazing around him now he sees fertile farms, comfortable dwellings and substantial farm buildings, with the land crossed by good roads and by iron rails, and villages here and there, in place of the dense forest of former years.

The birthplace of Mr. Clark was Hancock County, Ohio, and his natal day July 12, 1853. His father, Andrew J. Clark, is a native of New York and is of English descent. His mother, Mary A. (Spitler) Clark, was born in Vermont and traces her lineage back to Germany. Mr. Clark farmed in Ohio until 1852, when he came to Ionia County and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 23, Odessa Township. He worked upon this in the summer and returned to his home in the winter for two years, after which he brought his

family hither. He had cleared a small tract and put up a log house in which they took shelter while he continued his work. Prior to 1886 he had thoroughly improved the property and had added to it one hundred and sixty acres. That year he sold out and went to Brown County, S. Dak., where he is now engaged in farming and stock-raising. While in this State he made a specialty of breeding fine horses and kept good stock of all kinds.

The parental family includes David L., a farmer in Brown County, S. Dak.; Frank W.; Seth E. who is farming in Brown County, S. Dak.; George W. who occupies a part of the homestead in Odessa Township, and Sarah A., wife of Clark D. Roberts, living in Dakota. The father served in several township offices in Ionia County, throughout whose extent he was well known and highly respected. Politically, he is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject was in his second year when brought to this State. His early education was received in the district school and he subsequently attended college at Leoni, Jackson County, three terms and a select school at Woodland two terms. He then devoted the summer months to aiding his father in the farm work and the winters to school-teaching, beginning to act as a pedagogue when eighteen years old and continuing his professional work five years. When of age he clerked in a store in Ionia a short time, then entered into partnership with S. O. Hosford and bought a stock of goods at Bonanza. Six months later Mr. Hosford retired from the firm and not long after Mr. Clark sold out the establishment. He then took charge of his farm, which he has continued to manage, although he has not given it his entire time.

In addition to his mercantile establishment in Lake Odessa, where a thriving business is carried on, he is a member of the firm of Robinson & Clark, lumber dealers, who carry all kinds of lumber and have a planing-mill in connection with the yard. This firm was instituted in November, 1889, and bought out King, Quick & King. Mr. Clark has also a half-interest in a brick and tile factory at Sunfield, and through his influence a woolen mill is being erected in Lake Odessa. He will own the

building, while other parties will put in machinery for the manufacture of all kinds of woolen goods. Mr. Clark has village property and one hundred and sixty acres of improved land in Brown County, S. Dak.

Mr. Clark has a pleasant home brightened by the presence of four children—Florence, Zella, Josie and Greta. It is presided over by a lady who was known in her maidenhood as Miss Ann Tupper and who became Mrs. Clark April 18, 1873. She is a highly respected lady, intelligent, kind and capable. Mr. Clark is full of vim and enterprise and has done much toward the advancement of the town in which he lives. He has borne his part in the civic affairs of the township, having been Deputy Sheriff six years, Justice of the Peace four years, and is now President of the village of Lake Odessa. He was Postmaster at Bonanza several years. Socially he is a Mason, politically a Republican. His reputation as a business man, member of society and citizen is excellent, and his friends are many.



PARMENIO LONG. This gentleman is one of the number who settled in Montcalm County when it was but slightly opened up for cultivation and endured many of the trials that are the lot of all who take up pioneer work. He secured a tract of land in Crystal Township in the year 1853 and permanently located upon it three years later. He built a log cabin and during the first year cleared about eight acres, on which he sowed grain. He did all his trading in Ionia and made the shingles for W. W. Mitchell's house there from timber cut on his land. He has two hundred acres of land, most of which was cleared by himself, and sixty-five acres of woods and pasture. The rude log cabin has been supplanted by a more attractive dwelling, and farm buildings of various kinds are conveniently disposed near it. Mr. Long is now fitting up a new barn.

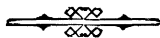
In Genesee County, N. Y., March 7, 1825, the eyes of Parmenio Long opened to the light. His

parents were James J. and Serepta (Huntley) Long, natives of Hebron, N. Y. and Vermont, respectively. They removed to the State of Ohio, lived there a year, and then came to Michigan when our subject was but twelve years old. The family sojourned in Monroe County one year, then went to Washtenaw County and resided near Ypsilanti about fourteen years. The father then removed to Livingston County, where he breathed his last. Our subject then had charge of the family, which included a brother and sister that were quite small. His widowed mother is still living with him, and is now eighty-seven years old, having been born in 1804.

The educational opportunities afforded Mr. Long in his youth were very limited, as his father was a poor man and could spare his son only in the winter months. He learned that which is better than book knowledge—practical ideas regarding the duties of man and the means of gaining a maintenance. He has at all times sympathized in the efforts of those who desired to improve their condition and add to their mental culture, and is counted upon to advance the interests of the cause of education and other elevating projects as much as possible. He has held the school offices and is scarcely ever without some official work to do. He has also been Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner. In politics he is a Democrat. His religious home is in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Vickeryville.

In Adrian, Lenawee County, December 12, 1860, Mr. Long was married to Miss Electa Gamby, an estimable lady who shared his fortunes but a short time, being called hence November 1, 1863. She left one child—James W., who was born January 31, 1862. A second matrimonial alliance was made by Mr. Long July 7, 1867, when he was united to Mrs. Anna E. Trim, of Bushnell, Montcalm County. To this union have been born six children, namely: Ada E., August 20, 1868; Charles N., December 7, 1870; Carrie E., December 4, 1872; Ida E., July 16, 1875; Orie I., January 25, 1879; and Onie E., November 5, 1880. The last named died March 3, 1882. James, the son of the first wife, married Nettie Smith of Lake View and is farming in Montcalm County.

The present Mrs. Long is a daughter of Charles K. Mitchell, a native of New Hampshire, but for some years prior to his decease a resident of Montcalm County. Her first husband was Levi Trim, to whom she bore four children—Richard L., born January 25, 1857; Ursula E., September 30, 1858; Parmi E., August 23, 1860; and Orlando M., November 26, 1862.



JOHAN CLARK TAYLOR. It is conceded to be one of the most difficult things known to the business world to establish a local paper upon a paying basis; and to keep such a sheet up to par requires fully as much energy, patience and perseverance as was needed in its establishment. The country editor is expected to send forth a sheet that will compare favorably with the dailies of the great cities, yet he enjoys none of the advantages possessed by their editors. It is therefore high praise to say that the weekly and daily *Standard* of Ionia is being successfully pushed, and that Mr. Taylor is considered one of the best newspaper men in Ionia County.

Mr. Taylor comes of old New England stock and is a son of Sylvester and Catherine (Colton) Taylor, who for a number of years lived on the Western Reserve in Ohio. The son of whom we write was born in Portage County, that State, July 1, 1840. He had but a common-school education, but by constant reading and application has become a well-informed man. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted in the Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, which was being organized, and left the State with his comrades September 12. He was at the front until the close of the war and returned with the regiment in June, 1865. The story of a soldier's life is an oft-told tale, and there are few whose imaginations cannot picture the scenes in which Mr. Taylor bore a part. The fact that he was promoted from the rank of Sergeant to that of Captain is evidence of his careful discharge of duties and his bravery under trying circumstances. Prominent among the battles in which he took part were Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, the

sieges of Chattanooga and Savannah, and Averysboro and Bentonville.

On his return from the South Mr. Taylor, in company with a war comrade, Maj. T. G. Stevenson, started the Ionia *Sentinel*, which they published many years. He served as Clerk of the State House of Correction three and a half years, and was the first Clerk and Steward for the Michigan Asylum for Insane Criminals, resigning February 1, 1888, to enter business. In 1889 he became associated in the ownership and management of the weekly *Express* and evening *Press*, but sold his interest in those newspapers in January, 1891. At that time he became Secretary and Treasurer of the Standard Publishing Company, which owns the plant of the weekly and daily *Standard* and carries on its publication.

Miss Mary Taylor, eldest daughter of C. R. Taylor, of Ionia, became the wife of our subject in October, 1867. They have had born to them seven children. The citizens of Ionia are provided with a live newspaper through the efforts of Mr. Taylor, who stands high in the estimation of the community and is deserving of their commendation. Politically Mr. Taylor was originally a Republican, but in accordance with his views on economic questions and their rising importance as political issues, has become a Democrat.



BRIGHAM BARNES. For more than a score of years this gentleman has been connected with the affairs of Howard City, Montcalm County, acting well his part in the business transactions in which he has a hand and in the public enterprises that will increase the prosperity of the town and surrounding country. He located here in 1869 and engaged in farming and lumbering, and for considerably more than a decade he was solely interested here. Then for a time he had interests elsewhere, but never changed his place of residence and finally disposed of other property and devoted himself again to this region alone. He has a fine farm on section 4, Reynolds Township, with many and varied improvements.

Mr. Barnes is a native of Hardwick, Mass., where he was born December 28, 1835. He is one of twelve children comprising the family of Jonas and Ollean (Fry) Barnes, who were natives of the Bay State and occupants of a farm. The other living members of the parental family are Warren, Willard, Harrison, Augustus, Elma, Henry, Forrester, Eveline and Clarett, all residents of Massachusetts. Eveline is the wife of Frank Keruth, and Clarett of Willard Barnes, of Hardwick, and the sons live in other towns not far removed from their early home.

Brigham Barnes spent his boyhood in the customary manner of alternation of farm work with attendance at the common school until old enough to learn a trade when he took up that of a currier. He was filling his place among men as an industrious workman when the Civil War began, and he soon decided where his duty and pleasure lay. He enlisted in July, 1861, as a private in the Twenty-first Massachusetts Infantry and was assigned to Company K, and until December, 1864, he was serving as a valiant defender of the Union. He was with the Burnside expedition along the Carolina coast and his first battle was at Roanoke Island. The next was Newbern, then Pollock's Mills, then Elizabeth (really fought twenty-two miles from that place), and he then went to Suffolk to help destroy the canal.

The forces of Gen. Burnside were then ordered to join McClellan but after reaching Fortress Monroe were changed to Pope's command and Mr. Barnes being absent on a foraging expedition was left behind. He took passage on the "West Point" then lying at Fredericksburg, to rejoin his command, but did not reach it without danger. The boat was sunk and seventy-eight lives lost. Mr. Barnes was picked up by the gunboat "Reliance" and landed at Alexandria, whence he made his way to the command, reaching them near the mouth of the Rapidan. From that point they fell back to the mouth of the Rappahannock where a fight took place and they had another engagement with the rebel cavalry near Warrenton.

The next place where Mr. Barnes was in a battle was White Sulphur Springs, and the next Manassas Junction, whence they were driven back, Stonewall

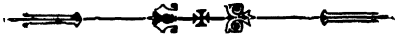
Jackson taking the place with many prisoners and a large amount of supplies. The next engagement of the Twenty-first was at the second battle of Bull Run where they fought two days and whence they went to Centerville and on to Chantilly, where the brave Phil Kearney lost his life. During this engagement the regiment lost two hundred and seventy-two men and fourteen officers in a few minutes and their retreat continued until they had crossed the Potomac. South Mountain and Antietam followed and Mr. Barnes was then taken to the hospital, a victim of typhoid fever. He rejoined the regiment in front of Fredericksburg, just in time to take part in a battle.

Soon after that Gen. Hooker took command and the force was sent to Newport News and went into camp. When they broke up camp they went to Mt. Sterling, Ky., where they fought with and captured a band of guerrillas and whence they went to Lexington and then with a part of the force to Jackson, afterward to Camp Nelson, and still later to Knoxville. Their next battle was at Blue Spring Gap, and not long after they were driven from Loudon by the rebels and a running fight was carried on several days until they were forced into Knoxville. After being besieged there some time they passed up the valley and after re-enlisting at Blaine's Cross Roads Mr. Barnes came North on a furlough. He was left in Massachusetts recruiting until May 1, 1864, when he went to the Capital and was placed in temporary command of a battalion of negroes, and was with them at the battle of Cold Harbor.

After that engagement Mr. Barnes rejoined his regiment, crossed the James and fought in front of Petersburg July 30, 1864. He was present when the explosion of Ft. Hill took place and lost his left arm, being at the time breaking his way through the enemy's line. He was taken to the hospital and discharged in December following, glad that he had been of service to his country and not begrudging his missing arm to the flag. He engaged in the sale of meat in his native State, but in 1868 removed to Michigan and located in Kalamazoo as a butcher. A year later he came to Howard City, which he has not ceased to regard as his home. In 1883 he went to Dakota and there he

farmed during the summers until 1890, returning hither each winter, but he then sold his Dakota lands, tired of the frequent changes of habitation and not willing to make a permanent home in that State.

The wife of Mr. Barnes bore the maiden name of Catherine Ames and their marriage rites were solemnized in November, 1867. Mr. Barnes is a firm believer in Democratic principles of Governmental policy and never fails to support candidates of the party. He was Supervisor when he went to Dakota and he resigned the place. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and is now present Commander of the Post. Howard City has no more pushing, enterprising citizen, and he is respected by other residents here.



EDWIN R. POWELL. Among newspaper men of Central Michigan few if any names are better known than that with which this sketch is introduced. Mr. Powell is the oldest printer, in point of years, in the State, and has taken part in the discussions of all the great questions that have agitated her people for half a century. Since 1869 his home has been in Stanton, where he was actively engaged in newspaper work until 1882, when his son assumed control of the paper he had been editing. Although he is now three-score and ten years old, Mr. Powell is still in the possession of the mental vigor which made him so forcible and influential a writer in days past.

The parents of our subject were John and Caroline (Jaques) Powell, natives of Vermont and the Province of Ontario respectively. They had four children, Edwin being the eldest. He was born in Livonia, N. Y., in 1820, and accompanied his parents to this State when he was about ten years old. In those early days the territory was new and its inhabitants were few indeed, except on the border. When fifteen years old young Powell entered a printing-office in Ann Arbor, where he remained until 1846, and in the meantime worked at Pontiac, Jackson, Ypsilanti and other points. He then returned to Ann Arbor and spent four years working

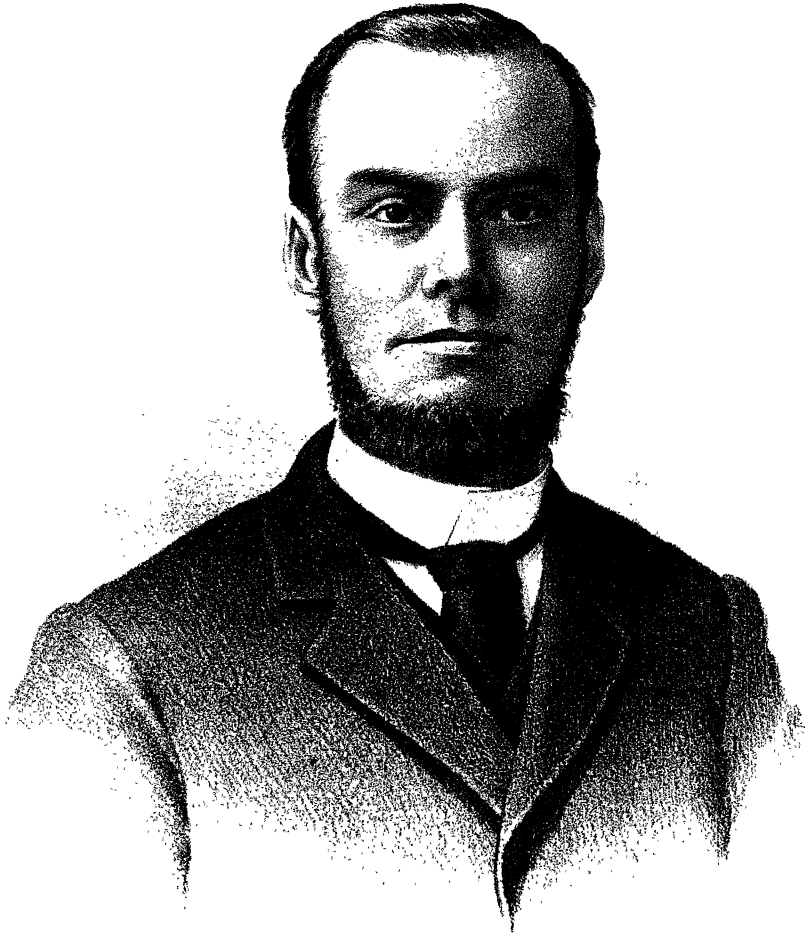
on the only Abolition paper then published in the North. In 1846 he went to Howell and bought the *Livingston Courier*, and published it for two years. In 1848 he established the *Ionia Gazette*, the first paper published in Ionia except the *Ionia Journal* which was published for a few months in 1843 and then was discontinued. He carried it on eighteen years and built up its influence until it led the papers of Central Michigan. When Mr. Powell disposed of his interest in that sheet he removed to Stanton and purchased the *Herald*, which he managed until it was taken control of by his son.

In 1848 the marriage of Mr. Powell and Miss Lucy L. King was solemnized. To the happy couple there came five children, four of whom are living. The only son, Torrence, succeeded to the business of his father and is now carrying on his work in Middleborough, Ky. Mr. Powell was a Democrat until 1855, and since that time has been a stanch Republican. It is a pleasure to converse with him, as the place which he occupied for so many years gave him a knowledge that falls to the lot of few men regarding public affairs, public men, and matters of general interest connected with the earlier history of Central Michigan.



HENRY C. CLARK, who occupies a beautiful farm on section 18, North Plains Township, Ionia County, was born June 6, 1841, in Onondaga County, N. Y. He is the son of a farmer Rufus Clark, a native of New York, and of Polly (Hiscock) Clark, a native of the same State. His father's father, Chester Clark, was born in Massachusetts. The parents of our subject came to Michigan in 1862, and made their home in North Plains Township, on section 18, where the father died in June, 1876, and where the mother still resides. Of their seven children two daughters and five sons, Henry C. is the eldest.

Upon reaching his majority, young Clark began to work out by the month for himself. He had worked in this way since he was fourteen years old, but until he was twenty one his father received his wages and clothed him out of them. The first two



W. H. Hasko

years of his manhood he worked for from \$12 to \$14 per month. He came to Michigan in 1863, and worked on a farm in North Plains Township for two years. He was married in Onondaga County, N. Y., to Ann Kelley, who was born in County Kings, Ireland. She came to Michigan with her parents when a young girl of fourteen years.

Mr. Clark located in 1865 on the land where he now resides. It was then heavy oak timber, and there were no roads upon it, blazed trees marking the pathways. He has cleared off his own farm and many another, and now has eighty acres in a fine state of cultivation, and five acres in timber. No children have come to bless this home. Mr. Clark always voted the Republican ticket until 1878, since which time he has given his allegiance to the Democratic party.



WILLIAM H. HANKS, a merchant of Cook's Corners, Ionia County, was born in Detroit, August 22, 1846. He is a son of Thomas Hanks, who was born in England and who came to America in 1842, and located in Detroit. There he engaged in the sale of merchandise and continued the business until 1861, when he turned his attention to farming. In 1872 he retired and is now living in Birmingham, this State. While residing in Detroit he served as Supervisor one term and took an active part in political and civil matters. He belonged to the old fire department there and was a member of an Odd Fellows lodge. His political allegiance was given to the Republican party. He was married in his native land to Comfort Dent, a native of Northamptonshire and to them were born the following children: George, a farmer in Saginaw County; William H., subject of our notice; Charles E., whose home is near Saginaw City; James A., a lawyer at Duluth, Minn., and Hattie, who is with her parents.

William H. Hanks remained at home until he

was eighteen years of age, gaining the information that is usually bestowed upon lads whose parents are in comfortable circumstances. He then went South as a carpenter and builder in the employ of the Government and during the summer and fall of 1864 was in Nashville. In 1867 he engaged in farming in Wayne County, this State, and steadily pursued the occupation until 1886, when he became traveling salesman for the Globe Furniture Company of Northville. After a year in the employ of that company he embarked in his present enterprise at Cook's Corners. He carries a stock of about \$9,000, comprising well-selected general merchandise, and he is meeting with satisfactory success as a merchant. He also ships produce and seeds in considerable quantities. He is the owner of property in Northville.

In Redford, Wayne County, in 1867, Mr. Hanks was married to Miss Annettie Cornwall, daughter of William J. and Sarah Cornwall of Redford Center, now known as Bell Branch. Mr. Cornwall is a native of Connecticut and his wife was born in Vermont. Besides the wife of our subject their family includes Emily A., wife of Charles Hanks, and Charles W., whose home is at Redford. Our subject and his wife have had but one child, a daughter, Eva, who died in infancy.

While a resident of Wayne County Mr. Hanks was Treasurer of Taylor Township, his incumbency of that office being during the year 1879, and he was School Inspector there in 1886-87. In his later home he has worked for the benefit of the schools in the capacity of Director, having been elected in 1890 for one year. He and his wife are honored members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is an active laborer, especially in Sunday-school work. He has been Steward and Trustee of the Church, and Sunday-school Superintendent, and in the last-named capacity is now serving at Otisco Church. In 1890 he was Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school at Belding. It is needless to say that the character of himself and wife gives them high standing in the society which they frequent.

In connection with this brief biographical notice a portrait of Mr. Hanks is presented to the readers of the ALBUM.

GEORGE A. SNELL a prominent farmer residing on section 8, Easton Township, Ionia County, is a native of Seneca County, N. Y., where he was born June 29, 1844. He is the son of Sylvenus T. and Susan (Tunison) Snell, both natives of New Jersey, and his ancestors on both sides were German. Sylvenus T. Snell came to Ionia County, Mich., first in 1836, and bought three hundred and twenty acres of land in Easton Township, a portion of which our subject now owns. He bought the land at \$6 an acre from speculators, and did nothing toward cultivating it until 1849 when he brought on his family and settled on the farm. It was in a wild condition just about as the Indians had left it. A log cabin which he erected served as a home for the family. Its dimensions were 26x30 feet, but they were not to be a united family long. In a little more than two years he was taken from them by death. Of his six children the following survive: Elizabeth, wife of J. V. Powlison who lives in Shiawassee County; Jacob, George; John, Travis and Abigail are deceased. The widow survived until June 28, 1884, when she passed away in her seventy-fifth age. Both were efficient and active members of the Baptist Church.

The subject of this sketch was reared amid the scenes of pioneer life and received his education in the district schools of the township and his practical training on the farm. He was married New Year's Day, 1870, to Ann Powlison, born in Benton County, Ark., December 16, 1850. She is a daughter of Isaac V. and Elizabeth (Allen) Powlison. The father was a native of New Jersey and the mother of New York. Mrs. Snell emigrated in early life to Kalamazoo County, Mich.

To Mr. and Mrs. Snell have been born ten children, viz: Alpheus G., Elizabeth, Willard F., (deceased,) Ola M., Leslie Isaac, Vada B., Eugene Q., Katie A., Walter and Cora. The handsome residence of the family overlooks the splendid farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He is Democratic in politics and practically a self-made man. Mrs. Snell is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their beautiful home and well-kept farm testify to their industry, perseverance and good management. Mrs. Snell was one of nine

children of the parental family, as follows: Eugene Q., Martha J., David F. (deceased,) Allen L., Hickson M., Stella (Mrs. Matters), Frederick W. and Leona. Mr. and Mrs. Snell stand high in the social circles of their township. They are intelligent, well-informed and prosperous and we take pleasure in representing them in this work.



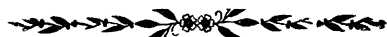
CALVIN SAWDY, junior partner in the firm of M. E. Curtis & Sawdy, is one of the most conspicuous figures among the younger business men of Edmore, Montcalm County. The work which is being done by the firm of which he is a member is spoken of at greater length in the sketch of M. E. Curtis, to which the reader is also referred for the ancestry of our subject. Mr. Sawdy is proving an able second to his partner in continuing and increasing the trade which was built up by the senior partner when carrying on the business alone.

Mr. Sawdy was born in Woodland Township, Barry County, August 21, 1857, and reared and educated there. He made his home under the parental roof until he had passed his majority, giving his time to the improvement of his mind, the acquiring of information regarding agricultural work and business principles and the recreations in which most youths indulge. When he left home and began farming on his own account he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in the same township and gave his attention to its operation and stock-raising until the spring of 1889. He then came to Edmore and bought an interest in the grocery store of Mr. Curtis, with whom he has since been connected.

Mr. Sawdy won for his wife Miss Mary Hitt, daughter of George and Mary Hitt, who own and occupy a farm in Barry County, where she was born and reared. The marriage was solemnized at the home of William H. Jordan, May 21, 1885, and has been followed by mutual happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Sawdy are the happy parents of two bright children—Edna F. and George Glenn.

The political party with which Mr. Sawdy acts

is the Republican and he is firmly convinced that its principles are those best adapted to the needs of the nation. He belongs to Woodland Lodge No. 289, I. O. O. F. and to Edmore Lodge, K. O. T. M. Mrs. Sawdy is a consistent member of the United Brethren Church. Both husband and wife are well liked and their home is often sought by their friends and acquaintances.



WILLIAM D. ARNOLD is a representative pioneer and esteemed citizen of Ionia County, and resides on section 29, Easton Township. He was born May 25, 1827, in Herkimer County, N. Y., and is a son of Dexter and Olive (Kimbell) Arnold, being of New England parentage and English ancestry. His grandfather, Job Arnold, served a short time in the Revolutionary War.

Dexter Arnold, the father of our subject, came to Michigan in the fall of 1835 and settled in Easton Township, a portion of his farm now being within the limits of Ionia City. His log cabin was built in the woods and he had to cut down trees to make a site whereon to erect it. Ionia City then contained four log houses and one frame house.

Dexter Arnold finally settled on a farm about one mile farther north. The early life of our subject was passed on the farm in the woods and in the district schools. After helping his father on the farm and having now more than reached his majority he looked about for her who was to prove his helpmate in life. On December 24, 1854, he was united in marriage with Isabel Kimbell, who was born in Bennington County, Vt., October 23, 1836.

The young bride is a daughter of Martin and Lucena (Smith) Kimbell. Her mother was a native of Vermont and her father of Rhode Island. In 1849 she emigrated with her parents to Ionia County, Mich., settling in Easton Township, and thus becoming one of its early settlers. Mr. Kimbell died March 12, 1875, and his wife in October, 1855. Of their nine children five are now living: Mrs. James Jepson; Mrs. Hiram Barrett; Mrs.

Arnold; Mrs. George Buchanan; and Lucena, now the widow of Mr. Kenney. The father of this household was a Wesleyan Methodist.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold are the parents of two children: Fred and Burt. Fred has two children—Olive and Glen; and Burt lives in Easton Township and has one child, a son. The home farm consists of eighty acres and Mrs. Arnold has some fifty-five acres of timber land in Easton Township, besides one-third interest in a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Campbell Township. In 1855 the young couple settled on their present farm in the woods and put up a log cabin 18x24 feet in size. For ten years this was their happy home and then they built the frame house occupied by Fred. In the summer of 1890 they established themselves in the fine residence which they now occupy. In the accumulation of this splendid property Mr. Arnold has been ably seconded by his devoted wife, whose wise counsels and hearty co-operation have been a large factor in his success.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in which he is a Steward, and where they are most useful in all church work. His political preferences are with the Prohibition party, and he is always heartily in sympathy with efforts for the elevation of society. They enjoy an extended acquaintance and in their well appointed home are preparing to spend the winter of their life happy in family ties, crowned by the results of a life well-spent. Mrs. Arnold is an earnest and useful member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and serves as Treasurer in the local organization.

Mr. Arnold has served for six successive years as Township Supervisor with credit to himself and profit to his constituents. He and his good wife have seen the country grow up from a wilderness to its present highly cultivated condition and recall with pleasure many scenes of pioneer life. He attended the first school held in a regular school building in Ionia, his name being enrolled there June 1, 1836. The teacher of this early school was a sister of the Hon. S. A. Yeomans. She afterwards became the wife of the Rev. Alfred Cornell, Jr. Our subject and his good wife are true representatives of the Michigan typical pioneer. He is

widely known for his sterling integrity and strict business methods and enjoys in a large measure the confidence of the business community. It is a common saying that his word is as good as his bond. Mrs. Arnold is a lady of unusual intelligence and rare powers of memory, and her large fund of historical lore pertaining to the early history of Michigan makes her an exceedingly entertaining conversationalist.



LEVI J. BARNARD living on section 14, Berlin Township, Ionia County, was a son of James Barnard, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and born there in 1806. The grandfather of our subject was Levi Barnard, a soldier in the War of 1812, who was at one time taken prisoner by the British and confined in prison for a short time. The family are of Scotch descent, and in character bear the marks of the sturdy, conscientious inhabitants of that northern country. The wife of James Barnard bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Cook. She was born in Vermont, in 1808, and was for some years a teacher, and always felt that interest in education which was characteristic of the old New England family to which she belonged.

The parents of our subject were married in New York State, and resided there until 1850, when they came to Michigan and settled on section 21, of Berlin Township. The farm which they took was slightly improved, having on it already a log house. Having an opportunity to sell it, they disposed of it that year and bought on section 14, of the same township. Here they had eighty acres, all raw land. They built a log house and barn and clearing off fifty acres put it in a good state of cultivation. They added to their farm, until they had two hundred and forty acres, one hundred and sixty of it being on section 22. They then sold out and bought eighty acres on section 21, and one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, where they made some improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. James Barnard were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was also a Trustee. Mrs. Barnard was a very active

worker in both church and Sunday-school, being always willing to bear her part in any enterprise connected with the religious welfare of the community. Her husband was strictly temperate in his habits and always took a lively interest in matters of education, being a member of the School Board. He was a staunch Republican, after the formation of that party, having formerly been a Whig. He always took an interest in politics. He started out for himself poor and by industry and enterprise acquired a handsome property. He died in 1883, his wife having preceded him in 1871. After her death he made his home with his children. They were the parents of nine children, five of whom survive them: Chester W. who lives at Escanaba; our subject; Abigail N., wife of S. R. Curtiss, whose sketch will be found in this volume; Lavina E., Mrs. T. Gulliver; Charles W., who lives at Kalkaska.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born March 30, 1838, in New Albion, N. Y. He was twelve years of age when he came to Michigan. Here his schooling, which had been begun in New York was supplemented by attendance in the best schools of his neighborhood. He began for himself at twenty years of age. He then returned to New York State, and as he was very anxious for self-improvement, he decided to work out by the month in the summer and go to school in the winter, working in the meantime for his board and devoting the rest of his time to study. He lived in this way for two years, and then removed to Stark County, Ill., and worked an underground ditching machine for two years.

Mr. Barnard returned home to Michigan in 1862, but did not remain there long, for his patriotic interest in his native land was more earnest than his love for home. He enlisted September 20, 1862 in Company M, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. The regiment left for Washington, D. C., in December of the same year and was encamped there although his company was sent out to Rockville, Md., to do guard duty, and afterward to Maryland Heights. They did considerable scouting duty and burned the bridge at Falling Water after Gen. Lee crossed over it into Maryland. They then rejoined the regiment and took part in the campaign of the

Wilderness. Our subject took an active part in the following battles: Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor and during the entire Potomac campaign.

At the battle of Trevilian Station, Va., June 11, 1864, our subject and about two hundred of Custer's Brigade, including nine of the General's staff officers were taken prisoners. Mr. Barnard was first taken to Libby Prison, Richmond, Va. He had quite a strange series of adventures the day of his capture. After he was first captured he escaped and with a comrade, Sergeant Whalen, was on foot in the woods. They came upon two well mounted rebel soldiers. Mr. Barnard boldly stepped up, halted them and ordered them to dismount, claiming them as prisoners. He and Sergt. Whalen took them in charge, and marching them to the rear of their regiment, delivered them up as prisoners. It was next their turn to play the part of prisoner, but in a more serious manner. The whole detachment was captured by the rebel force and taken into the camp of Wade Hampton. He was stripped of his clothing and placed in Libby Prison for fourteen days. He was then taken to Andersonville, where they were under the tyranny of Capt. Wirz. He remained at Andersonville until October, 1864, when he was taken to Milan prison and afterward to Savannah, Ga., where he was released on parole. He spent six months in rebel prisons.

George W. Barnard, a brother of our subject, was taken prisoner the same day, and died while in Andersonville prison in the fall of 1864. Levi was in a terribly emaciated condition and very much out of health at the time of his release, and has always suffered from his hardships during that period. At the time of his capture he weighed one hundred and eighty-four pounds and after he had been at home again for three months and had already gained considerable in health he weighed but one hundred and sixteen. Our subject was a close companion of his brother-in-law S. R. Curtiss. They were paroled and went to Annapolis, Md., where they were given a furlough. He remained at home for ninety days and then returned to Annapolis. He was sent to City Point, Va., to rejoin his regiment before Petersburg, Va. He remained for a while at City Point with Capt.

B. F. Rockafellow who was Quartermaster of his cavalry corps until the brigade was finally ordered to cross the plains to Ft. Leavenworth. He went to Washington, D. C., and was there several days, then on to Cincinnati where he stayed one week; was detained two weeks at St. Louis and arrived at Leavenworth, Kan., the last of July and remained there until October 10, 1864, when they were dismissed from service after being in the army three years.

The subject of this sketch returned home and bought eighty acres of land where he now lives. He was married May 5, 1866, to Della Hubbard, a daughter of Mr. Hubbard of Ohio. She was born June 23, 1844, in Ohio, and died November, 1867, leaving one child, who has since died. His second marriage took place March 10, 1870. He married Amie R. Bliss, a daughter of Solomon E. and Mary L. (Gaines) Bliss. Her father was a native of Vermont and belonged to an old Scotch family, while her mother was a Connecticut woman. They were married in Farmington, Ohio. Mr. Bliss was a farmer and died in June, 1874. Mrs. Bliss still lives in this township at the advanced age of seventy-six years. She is a member of the Christian Church. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are now living: Mrs. Barnard's father was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a man greatly interested in school affairs.

Mrs. Barnard was born February 10, 1844, in Ohio. She received a good common-school education. She and her husband are the parents of five children, all living: Della A., born November 14, 1872; Myrtie I., December 20, 1873; Levi J., Jr., January 18, 1877; Earl W., August 29, 1881; Ethel M., December 16, 1882. Mrs. Barnard and her two eldest daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and take an active interest in Sunday-school. These two young ladies are both students in the Ionia City schools and are proficient in instrumental music. Mr. Barnard was a charter member of the Lyons Post, G. A. R. and at present belongs to the Ionia Post. He is Treasurer of the Sixth Michigan Cavalry Association; also a member of the Association of ex-Prisoners of War in Michigan. He was elected to the posi-

tion of President in this association but declined to act. He is, however, Vice-President of the same. He is Treasurer of the Ionia County Battalion Association, and Master of the local Grange for nine years; he is also a member of the State and National Grange. The Rev. Daniel Bliss, an uncle of Mrs. Barnard is a missionary in Beyroot, Syria, in Asia.

Mr. Barnard has filled many offices of public trust in the community in which he lives. He has been for twelve years Director of the local schools, and has been Supervisor and School Inspector. He has always been a straight Republican. He is a constant sufferer from rheumatism, which is a reminder of his patriotic efforts to serve his country, for he has never had any health since his army experience. In 1886 he was named as a candidate for the State Legislature. He protested strongly against this, as he did not feel able to serve, but his party was so enthusiastic in its advocacy of his claims that he was obliged to make the canvass, notwithstanding his objections. He has to hire help all the year round for the cultivation of his land. One hundred and seventy acres of his two hundred and twenty are under cultivation. Sixteen years ago he built a residence and eleven years ago built another across the way from the first. In one of these he keeps the family whom he employs upon the farm. This house cost \$1,000, his own residence costing \$2,500. He carries on mixed farming successfully.



DAVID B. MASON, a prominent farmer living on section 11, Eureka Township, Montcalm County, was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., December 2, 1820. His father, Hiram Mason, a native of New York, was born in 1789. He was the son of Benjamin Mason, who was born in Massachusetts in 1738. It is said that the Mason family in this country originated with three brothers, who came across the seas in Colonial times. Two of them settled in Massachusetts and one at Jamestown, Va. One of the Northern settlers was the great-grandfather of our subject. The

grandfather was a Quaker and in consequence of religious scruples refrained from serving in the Revolutionary War. He was a tanner and shoemaker, and emigrated when a young man to Albany, N. Y. During his later days he removed to Tompkins County, and died there at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

The father of our subject followed the business of a carpenter and joiner all his life. He removed to Potter County, Pa., in 1833, and in 1837 came West. He made the journey to Detroit by boat, and from there took team and wagon. He resided in Livingston County upon a small farm, but before his death, which occurred February 11, 1877, he came to reside with his sons in Genesee County. He belonged to the Baptist Church and was the oldest member of the Masonic order living in Genesee County at the time of his death. In his early days he was a Democrat, but joined the Republican party upon its organization.

The mother of our subject was Sena Garrison, a native of Schodack Township, Albany County, N. Y. She was born in 1796, and died at the age of sixty-six years, having been the mother of six children, all of whom grew to maturity. She was a true-blue Presbyterian of the old school. Her family had been New York farmers for several generations and had large estates in Albany County.

David B. Mason early learned the trades of the carpenter and millwright, and from that it was an easy step to learning the milling business, which he has followed much of his life. He has been the proprietor of a mill eight different times. At eighteen years of age he began teaching, although he made his home with his father until he reached the age of twenty-five years. For nine years he farmed and worked at the carpenter's trade in the summers and taught in the winters. His first teaching in Michigan in 1838 was in the old-fashioned schoolhouse, elegantly furnished with slab benches set upon pin legs, and ventilated and heated by a system of open fireplaces and stick chimneys. Game was plentiful in those days and our subject had many an adventure with deer, bear, wolf and fox, and has even shot a panther. He says he has seen twenty-five and thirty deer in one day.

In 1864 this young man removed to Genesee

County, Mich., and engaged in the milling business. He used to ship nine hundred barrels of flour each week, besides supplying the local trade. When he first visited Montcalm County on a tour of inspection June 15, 1838, he traveled by team and partly on foot. There was not then a settlement within miles of what is now his present farm, but as it happened he ate his dinner on that very spot and in a thoughtless moment chopped his initials on a tree. A few years ago in chopping down trees he came upon that very one and discovered his initials in the bark. He bought this farm only sixteen years ago. How little he dreamed when he cut his initials in the tree that he was marking his future property!

The California fever struck Mr. Mason in 1852, and he crossed the plains and engaged in mining and merchandising. He accumulated some property, and two years after his going there returned, having cleared \$1,000. He removed to Montcalm County in the fall of 1864 and bought one hundred and sixty acres, which he now owns, on the outskirts of the city of Greenville. The farm is now all finely improved and his handsome brick residence is a credit to the neighborhood. It was erected at an expense of \$7,000. He raises grain and stock.

The marriage of Mr. Mason, December 6, 1846, to Mary J. VanCamp was an event of great importance in his life and opened up a long vista of domestic happiness. His good wife, who is still with him, was born in Ulysses Township, Tompkins County, N. Y., October 16, 1829. Her parents, John A. and Catherine (Cole) VanCamp, were of German and English descent respectively. Mr. VanCamp is a blacksmith by trade and is now eighty-four years old. His good wife, who reached the same ripe age, was called to her eternal rest September 14, 1890. He was one of the early settlers of Livingston County, Mich., and from 1833 until old age compelled him to retire from active life he kept a blacksmith shop in that county. The children of our subject are four in number. Two only of them have grown to maturity, namely: Emma (Mrs. Hamper), and Amy (Mrs. Demorest.)

Mr. Mason has held many township offices and is always wide-awake in regard to matters of public interest. He is radical in politics and an earnest

believer in the principles of the Democratic party. His good wife is a devoted and earnest Christian and her church connections are with the Baptist denomination. Mr. Mason is connected with the Masonic Fraternity. The home of this worthy couple is ever open to the poor and homeless. They reared from boyhood the young man who became the husband of their eldest daughter. Mr. Mason is a man of unusual intelligence and possesses many good and original ideas which have conduced to his own prosperity and to that of the community in which he resides.



EUGENE F. COLWELL, a leading hardware merchant of Lake Odessa, Ionia County, is a striking example of the reinforcement to character and success, given to a young man through a long and honorable ancestry. A boy whose early life was one of struggles with poverty and hard work, has grown into manhood and has successfully met the world. He was born in Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., May 26, 1828, and was the son of Joseph and Laura (Smith) Colwell. The father was a native of Rhode Island, of English descent. The great-grandfather of Joseph was one of the first settlers of Rhode Island and was connected with Roger Williams.

The connection of our subject with Roger Williams, the founder of Rhoda Island is as follows: Roger Williams had a daughter Mercy, who married Samuel Winsor. They left a son Samuel, who married Mercy Harding. Their daughter, Martha Winsor, married Robert Colwell. His youngest son Benjamin, married Deborah Brown. Their eldest son, Joseph Colwell, was the father of E. F. Colwell. The father of Deborah Brown was the founder of Brown's University, at Providence, R. I.

The mother of Eugene Colwell was born in Oneida County, N. Y., of English descent. Her husband was a merchant and one of the first settlers of Hamilton, having the first store in that town. Being an active and intelligent member of the Baptist Church and on account of ancestral ten-

dencies naturally interested in providing educational facilities in his home, he became one of the founders of Madison University, which is situated at Hamilton.

About 1839 he removed from his old home to Michigan, settling in Hillsdale County, for about five years. He then returned to New York and remained in Oswego until his death, in 1851. His good wife had preceded him to the other world before his departure for Michigan. Six of their nine children survive them, namely: Dr. Justin B., resides in Pontiac, Mich.; Albert G., an iron manufacturer of Cleveland, Ohio; Laura S., Mrs. Lemuel Long, resides at Flint, Mich.; Edwin B., a fruit-grower of California; Charles B., a druggist in Jackson; and Eugene F., of whom we write.

The early education of our subject was obtained in the primary schools of Madison County, N. Y. He was only nine years old when he came to Michigan and having lost his mother by death and his sister by marriage, the family was broken up about a year after coming West, and the little boy was brought up by different members of the family. He spent some time in Michigan and again in New York; he was in school for awhile.

At the age of eighteen he clerked in a drug store at Oswego, and there prepared himself to embark independently in this business. After being in business in Oswego for about four years, he went to Madison, Wis., and for four or five years was in company with his brother Charles in a drugstore there. After that he removed to Janesville, Wis., and engaged in the same business until 1867, when he removed to Detroit, Mich. After fourteen years in that city he removed to Ionia County, Mich. In 1883 he turned his attention to the hardware business, and coming to Lake Odessa built a fine iron-clad building and opened up a hardware store where he still carries on business, having one of the largest stocks of hardware in the county.

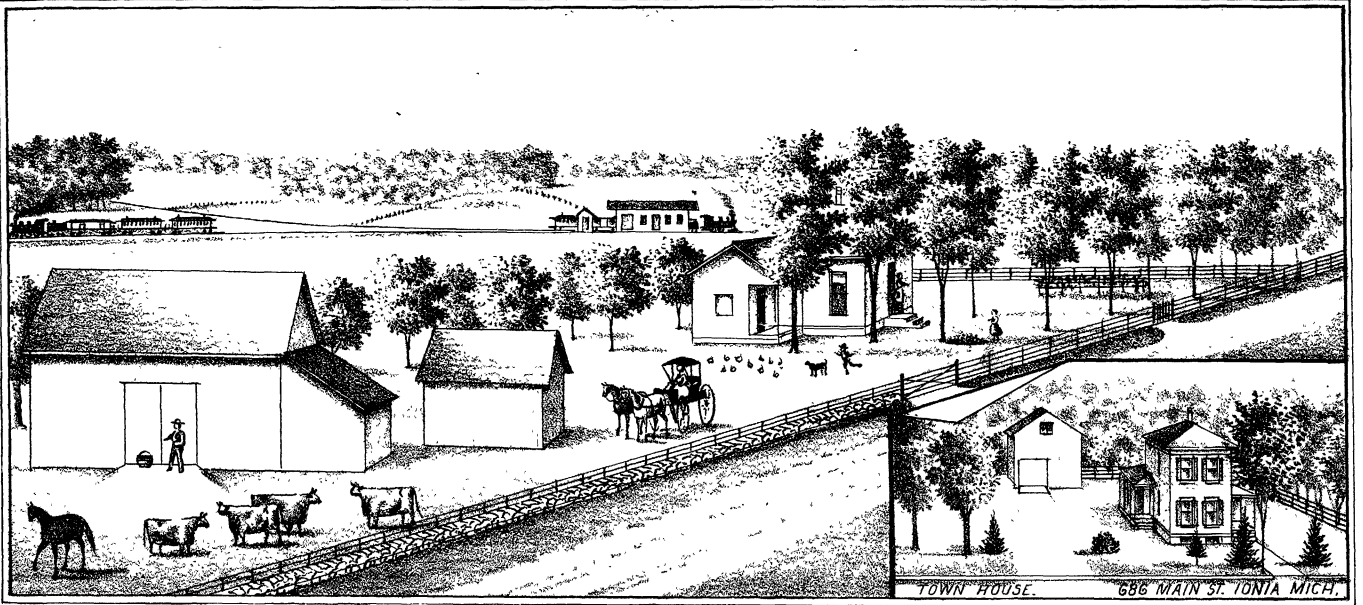
The marriage of our subject with Louisa M. Smith in 1860, was blessed with three children, one child now living—Clayton M., who is associated with his father in business. This wife died in 1872. His second marriage, in October 1873, was contracted with Alice M. Cornell. They have one child, Ray, who resides at home. The standing of Mr. and Mrs.

Colwell in the community in which they live is very high. All respect a man who has by his own efforts gained affluence, while at the same time he is ever ready to do his share in promoting the interests of the people among whom he lives. He is a staunch Republican and has always supported the principles of that party. In early life he was of the Whig party. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees where he now resides and is at present on the School Board.

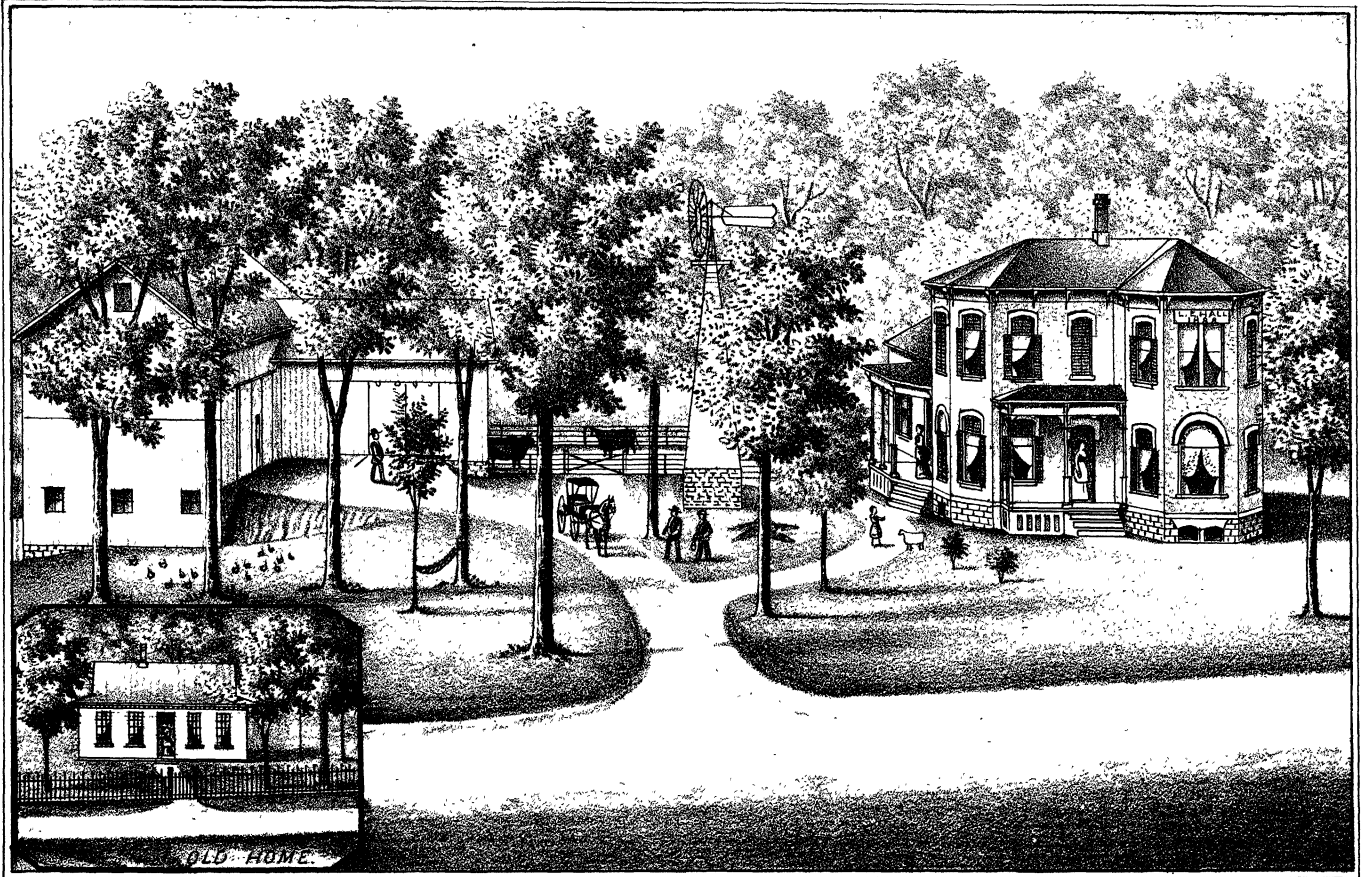
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ELIZABETH PARKER. The rural districts of Ionia County are dotted with attractive homes, which in architectural design, neat and tasteful surroundings, and thrifty management are models of comfort and homelikeness. One of these is located on section 11, Easton Township, and is represented by a view on another page. It is the property of Mrs. Parker, who possesses the housewifely skill and prudence that insures to the inmates all the comforts of life in a true home. A woman of merit, in the community where she resides she is esteemed by all. She has traveled extensively, having crossed the ocean from continent to continent, and resided in several different States. Through this means, her knowledge of the world has been broadened, and in all her dealing with her neighbors she has ever been honorable and straightforward.

A native of Lincolnshire, England, Mrs. Parker was born December 19, 1843, and is the daughter of Edward and Dina (Nichols) Raby, natives of England. Mr. Raby, who is now (1891) in his seventy-sixth year is residing in Ionia County, while Mrs. Raby passed away in 1871, in Clinton County, Mich. They had a family of three children, of whom Mrs. Parker is the only survivor. In the spring of 1850, when in her seventh year, with her parents and one brother she emigrated to America, taking passage on a sailing vessel called "The Ross," and after an ocean voyage of five weeks and four days of fair weather with the exception of a severe thunder storm, she landed in New York City.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. ELIZABETH PARKER, STAUNTON JUNCTION, IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF LUTHER E. HALL, SEC. 36. ORLEANS TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

In that city and also in Cleveland, Ohio, the family lived a short time and then went to St. Louis, Mo., remaining there for a few years. They then returned to Ohio, and sojourned a short time in Lorain County; subsequently removing to De Kalb County, Ind., and remaining about eighteen months. Afterward they settled in Ontario, Canada, for a short time. The brother of our subject died in Lorain County, Ohio, in February, 1854. In the spring of 1858, our subject with her father came to Ionia County, Mich. The father was employed by a railroad company on a gravel train, which was ballasting a bed for the Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee Railroad. This company employed Mr. Raby for a number of years and the family were constantly obliged to move about from place to place as best suited his convenience, and in 1859 they settled in Clinton County. Mr. Raby was in the Army of the Cumberland three years and seven months and draws a pension of \$8 per month.

Mrs. Parker received a common-school education, acquiring it mostly in Ohio and the schools of St. Louis, Mo. She was first married October 12, 1869, to John Elston, who died December 26, 1870. He was born in Devonshire, England, and was a blacksmith by trade. She was a second time married, November 1, 1871, to Henry Parker, who was born in Oxfordshire, England, November 5, 1831. When a mere youth Mr. Parker with his parents emigrated to America in 1842, landing at Ontario, Canada, and when in his seventeenth year he left home and became a sailor. He visited Cape Town, Africa and Australia, where he worked in the gold mines and came back to the United States by the way of South America, having been gone three years. Mr. Parker married for his first wife Jane Field, and by that union three children were born and the only one living is residing in Keene Township, this county. Of this union with our subject five children were born, four of whom are living. Edward R., Samuel H., Cora E., Alfred; Mary L., is deceased.

After this marriage took place Mr. Parker settled to agricultural pursuits in Clinton County, Mich., where he remained, following farming until 1869. In 1871 he came to Ionia County, and here

he resided until his death which occurred July 15, 1886. He was a Democrat in politics, was capable and enterprising, a man of fine business abilities and good education, having practically educated himself. He was a kind father, loving husband and though of a reserved disposition he yet made many warm friends. He was successful in business life, and at his death left a valuable estate. His widow lives on the homestead and owns eighty acres of land and valuable property in Ionia City. She and her children are valued members of the Episcopal Church, active in society, and have a large circle of warm friends.



LUTHER E. HALL. Among the native-born citizens of Ionia County who are now making it the scene of their labors, is Mr. Hall, a farmer on section 36, Orleans Township. He is a son of Joshua S. and Sarah (Haight) Hall, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. He was born in Ionia Township in 1846 and was an inmate of the parental home until he was of age. His education was obtained in the common schools and the Schwenesburg & Robbins Commercial College at Grand Rapids. After attaining to his majority he farmed on his father's land two years, then went to Illinois and put forth his efforts there six years, leasing a farm.

From Illinois Mr. Hall returned to the place of his birth and in a short time was settled on the farm he yet occupies, and a view of which, with its commodious buildings, appears on another page. His property here consists of eighty acres, upon which he has put good buildings and made other improvements. In addition to the ordinary work of an agriculturist he breeds Percheron horses and Jersey cattle. Mr. Hall is the owner of a good farm in Ionia Township, consisting also of fifty-three acres. He understands farming as well as any man of his years in the county and demonstrates his ability to make a good maintenance.

In Otisco Township Mr. Hall was married to Miss Eva Rickey, who brightened his home but eighteen months and died childless. She was a

daughter of Orrin and Marcy (Webster) Rickey, natives respectively of Vermont and Ohio. August 25, 1872, Mr. Hall made a second marriage, the scene of the interesting event being Iroquois County, Ill. The bride on this occasion was Maria, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Aikman) Allen, who were born in Indiana, and whose family consisted of Heber, Maria, Bell, Frank, Lida, Norah, Eva and Nettie. The present union of Mr. Hall has been blest by the birth of the following children: Alma, Louie A., Frank E. and Eleanor A.

Mr. Hall is and always has been a Republican. He has served as Highway Commissioner in Orleans Township and is a member of the Board of Review. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and the Royal Arcanum. He has traveled some in the South and East, going to New Orleans at the time of the International Cotton Exposition and as far east as Connecticut, enjoying the view of Niagara Falls on the way to New England. Intelligent and observing, his trips have added to his social qualities by broadening his outlook and increasing his stock of knowledge.



NICHOLAS NOLAN. This well-to-do citizen of Montcalm County is proprietor of the Nolan House, the oldest hotel in Edmore. He has been the proprietor of this establishment almost since the town was founded and still occupies a building which was one of the first erected here. He has other property also in the village, and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 18, Home Township, which he superintends, carrying on general farming and stock-raising. He has under the plow one hundred acres and every necessary building has been put up, so that his work is prospering. In addition to these resources Mr. Nolan is a shareholder and director in the Robinson Opera House, of which he was one of the originators.

As his surname indicates, Mr. Nolan belongs to the Irish nationality. His paternal grandfather for whom he is named, was the owner of a large

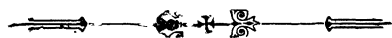
tract of land in County Wexford, Ireland, and James Nolan, father of our subject, also followed farming, his property being situated in the Parish of Blackwater. The latter lived to the age of seventy years. The maternal ancestors of Mr. Nolan were likewise agriculturists, and his mother, Martha Dimsay, was born on a farm in the parish of Mononarich. Mr. and Mrs. James Nolan were Catholics and their seven children were taken into the fold of the mother church.

The natal day of Nicholas Nolan was in March, 1838, and his birthplace the town of Tubrlimino, Parish of Blackwater, County Wexford. He had the advantages of the national schools of Ireland until his sixteenth year, and made his home on the parental farm. He was then apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, but his master being of a mean disposition he remained with him but two years. When nineteen years old he went to Liverpool, England, where for four and a half years he was employed in chemical works and became somewhat initiated into the science of chemistry. The work he had to perform was very hard and he heard so much of America that he determined to come hither. He therefore engaged as fireman on the "Great Eastern" in 1865, made the trip to New York and then gave up his position.

Mr. Nolan worked on a railroad in New Jersey a short time, then found employment in a blast furnace in Buffalo, N. Y. Thence he went to Philadelphia and worked in a brick yard, then to Saginaw, this State, to resume railroad work. His next location was Lansing, where he spent the summer helping in masonry, and then entered the employ of the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad. He helped to lay the first rail of the road and worked for the company about twelve years, laboring on the route from the capital to Big Rapids. During a part of the time his financial resources were increased from a boarding house which was managed by his wife. He came to Edmore, May 14, 1878, and the same summer built the Nolan House, which he has since conducted. During a part of the time he has also carried on a saloon.

The marriage of Mr. Nolan and Miss Bridget Ryan was solemnized in Ionia in 1872. The bride was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland. The family

of our subject and his wife consists of two daughters and a son who are still with their parents and whose names are Martha, Mary and Nicholas, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Nolan are communicants of the Catholic Church, but seldom attend, as there is no organization convenient of access for them.



ALMON TUTTLE. Among the foremost families of Ionia County is that of Nelson Tuttle, a large circle who are influential and respected as patriotic citizens, efficient and conscientious church members and useful citizens in every walk in life. The daughters of the family are well known as the wives of prominent men, as William Adgate, Stewart Townsend, and Lewis H. Ferguson, whose sketches appear in these pages. The parents of this interesting family are Nelson and Sophia (Pangborn) Tuttle. He was born in Connecticut in 1800, and she in the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., in 1805, and when she was a small girl her people moved to Deerfield, Ohio. They were married about 1825 in Portage County, Ohio, and came to Michigan in the spring of 1846, bringing with them the aged grandmother, Lydia Pangborn, who died in the fall of that year.

The Pangborn family were of Mohawk Dutch descent. Nelson Tuttle had by his marriage with Sophia Pangborn, twelve children. Of his five boys, two served faithfully and efficiently in the Civil War. Emory was a member of Company E, Sixteenth Michigan Infantry, and was killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg. He was buried upon the field, but later his remains were brought home and they now lie in the family cemetery. The father of this numerous family was twice married, but had no children by his second wife who was, previous to her union with him the widow of Eunice K. Talcott. She survives him and lives in the old homestead at the age of seventy-one years. He was a power in the church and a great worker. He made a public profession of religion in 1818, and was always a consistent member until his death, August 18, 1890. He was Class-Leader for fifty-two years and occupied also the responsible positions

of Steward and Trustee. He had the happiness of seeing all his children unite with the church before his death. The first Methodist Episcopal Church in Ionia Township outside of the city was built by him and paid for out of his private purse.

The natal day of Almon Tuttle was November 1, 1835. He first saw the light in Palmyra, Portage County, Ohio, and came to Michigan with his parents in his twelfth year. His common-school education in Ohio was supplemented by attendance at the log schoolhouse in Michigan. At nineteen years of age he began work for himself. He married into a family who were early pioneers in Lenawee County, being united September 5, 1854, with Rhoda J. Copley, a daughter of Samuel N. and Sallie C. (Smith) Copley. Mr. Copley was born in the Empire State about 1807, and his wife in the same State in 1815. This worthy couple removed to Michigan in 1836, following in the footsteps of Mrs. Copley's father, Silas P. Smith, who had preceded them to this county in 1833. The Copleys did not however remain long in the new West, and after a residence here of two years returned to New York State, where they took up their residence until Mr. Copley's death, in April, 1844. Mr. Smith went at once to his widowed daughter and brought her and her family to his own home. Sometime later Mrs. Copley married Frederick Delano. They are still living in Muskegon County on a farm. By this marriage she was the mother of four children. Her marriage with Mr. Copley was blessed with three children: Lydia, Mrs. D. Blank, who was killed by a runaway team, leaving one son; Harriet, Mrs. Judson McClure, died in 1882 leaving one son. Mrs. Tuttle is the second daughter and was born August 9, 1834, in Chenango County, N. Y., where she received a common-school education.

When Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle started in life together they had one hundred and sixty acres of land, five of which had been cleared of trees. In this clearing stood a log house, 16x20 feet in dimensions, with one window and one door, and a half window in the loft. Rough boards formed a floor and a fireplace served for heating, cooking and ventilation. A yoke of untrained steers, a heifer and an ox-sled, for both summer and winter use, formed their out-of-door possessions. A little later they became

prosperous enough to purchase a cart for summer use. The nearest water was one and a half miles distant from the house.

Here on section 35, Ionia Township, the young couple lived for six years. Mr. Tuttle cleared and fenced forty acres and upon this raised crops. His first crop was eight acres of wheat which was nipped by the frost in June. He, however, raised thirty-five bushels from this planting. He used to haul wood and black salts to Ionia. In 1860 they removed to the old Tuttle homestead where they lived until they built their present residence on section 33. He traded his farm to his father for one hundred acres of land and gave in addition a mortgage of \$800 payable one year after the father's death. The father afterward gave this son ten acres of land adjoining his farm on the west. Almon Tuttle had cleared fifty acres, re-fenced his farm and built a house and barn. His fine orchard contains one hundred and sixty apple trees, thirty-three pear trees and a large quantity of small fruit, quinces and cherries. His barn has a stable basement sufficient for the accommodation of all his stock. His tile drainage three-fourths of a mile long cost over \$400. A fine maple grove of seven hundred trees furnishes a supply of delicious sugar. He carries on mixed farming, raising both grain and stock and takes great pride in his Jersey cattle, and fine wool sheep, of the Spanish-Merino breed.

Mr. and Mrs. Almon Tuttle are the parents of four children: Albert died in infancy; Lois and Lewis (twins) were born August 9, 1858—Lois died November 13, 1875; Nelson S., born March 23, 1860; Dr. Lewis N. married Clara West and is practicing medicine at Belding. He is a graduate of Ann Arbor State University in the medical department, having taken his diploma in the class of 1885; he is the father of two children. Nelson S., is married to Maud E. Willis with whom he lives at Grand Rapids. He was a graduate of Ionia High School and took a high rank when attending the State Agricultural College. He received a first grade certificate and taught in Mackinaw City and other schools. The excellent parents of these fine young men have great reason to be proud of their standing in their chosen professions, and in their personal character which is no doubt largely the

result of the judicious training and inherited qualities received from a wise father and a judicious loving mother. Mrs. Tuttle is now in declining health. The subject of this sketch was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting August 9, 1862, in Company A, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry. He took part in the battle of Perryville, Ky., and was discharged April 21, 1863, on a surgeon's certificate of physical disability. He is active in both the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having been both teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday-school and giving practical help in the building of the church. He is a member of the Masonic order of Ionia and of the Grand Army Post. He is intelligent in political matters and votes the Republican ticket. He and his sons have always been strictly temperate in their habits and their intelligence and probity give them the confidence of all who know them. He has one of the best libraries in the neighborhood, including Johnson's Encyclopedia.



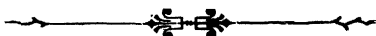
KASPAR FEUERSTEIN. Among the prosperous and intelligent American citizens of Ionia County who have been selected for representation in this ALBUM is the worthy subject of this sketch. He was a soldier of the Civil War, and resides on section 4, Keene Township, Ionia County. He was born in Germany September 15, 1841, and is a son of John and Apalona (Kempf) Feuerstein. When but a few months old his parents brought him to this country and made their home in Dearborn County, Ind. There the mother still resides, having been bereaved of her husband April 7, 1868.

Our subject was reared to manhood on the home farm and has pursued farming all his life, except during the period when he served his adopted country in the field of war. He enlisted August 16, 1862, in Company H, Eighty-third Indiana Infantry, which formed a part of Gen. Sherman's army, in the Second Brigade, Second Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps. He was in the battle in the rear of Vicksburg, before the siege, in the

one at Arkansas Post, and in another in the rear of Vicksburg, and he participated in the entire siege of Vicksburg. He also saw the smoke of battle at Jackson, Miss., at Missionary Ridge, Kennesaw Mountain, and at Marietta, Ga. He participated in the siege at Atlanta and was one of the boys in blue who took the grand march to the sea with Sherman, and he was in the last battle of the war near Goldsboro, N. C. He was also present at Johnston's surrender and at the Grand Review at Washington, May 24, 1865. His honorable discharge was granted in June, 1865.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Feuerstein removed from Indiana to Ionia County, this State, and after a short time went on to Montcalm County, but returned to Ionia County in 1872, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres and has here made his home to the present date. His marriage took place in 1868. His wife was Catherine Henninger, who became the mother of eight children, seven of whom are living, namely: Magdeline, Apolona, John P., Mary, George, Michael and Elizabeth. The family is strictly trained in the doctrines and rites of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Feuerstein's political affiliations are with the Democratic party. He has served on the School Board of his district and is ever interested in the upbuilding of educational institutions. That he has been true to the land of his adoption his brave and valued service in the Civil War abundantly attests. He is to-day one of the foremost German-American citizens of Ionia County, and is universally esteemed for his industry, thrift and good management which are the key notes to success. He and his intelligent wife and their children are all respected members of society, and his record, both military and civil, is creditable to a high degree, and is indeed worthy the emulation and imitation of his posterity.



THOMAS CONNER. Among the representative and venerable pioneers of Ionia County and the now far famed Grand River Valley, we are pleased to represent the worthy and honored

subject of this sketch, who resides on section 17, Easton Township. He was born in Ontario, Canada, February 8, 1821, and is the son of Cornelius and Hannah (Vaneavery) Conner. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania. His paternal ancestors were Irish, his Grandfather Conner having been a native of Ireland and a soldier in the British army in the War of 1812.

The parents of our subject had seven children, four of whom survive, namely: Isaac, Thomas, William and Benjamin. After a boyhood spent on the farm, our subject learned the trade of a carpenter. His school advantages were exceedingly limited, but he has been a reader all his life and has kept well informed in regard to matters of public interest. His marriage took place in Canada in 1843. His wife was Ellen, daughter of William and Ann Horsburg. She was born in Scotland, whence she emigrated, when ten years old with her parents to Canada. By his marriage Mr. Conner became the father of nine children, namely: Ann, Mrs. Virgil B. Conner; Eliza, Mrs. Harden Kellogg; Emily; Belle, wife of Osman DeGraw; William; Sarah, Mrs. Frank Gordan; Levi S.; Ada, wife of Orson Snell and Mary, Mrs. Harvey Russ.

In 1856 our subject with his family emigrated to Ionia County, Mich., and settled on land which now forms his fine farm in Easton Township, which he has by his own efforts brought to its present high state of cultivation. He is a public-spirited man and helps forward all movements for the elevation of society. He is Republican in his political convictions, although he is not in any sense an office seeker, yet he works earnestly to the success of his party. He has done his full share of pioneer work for he is one of the oldest settlers in the vicinity, and had practically no means to begin with.

Mrs. Conner who was in all things a devoted helpmate and wise counselor, departed this life April 17, 1889, leaving behind her a wealth of love and affection. Not only her own family but all her friends and neighbors mourn her loss. In her death her family lost a devoted mother and wife and the county one of its representative pioneer women. Our subject is now prepared to spend the remaining years of his life in comfort and pros-

perity, and enjoys the fruits of a life spent in useful labor. He is surrounded by his children and friends. He has been an eye-witness of many stirring and interesting events in the past days of Ionia County and he can vividly recall the times of self-denial and hardship. He is known far and wide for his sterling integrity and his word is considered as good as his bond. One only needs to meet and converse with Mr. Conner to be convinced that he is a manly representative of the typical Michigan pioneer.



AMON OTIS is ex-County Treasurer of Ionia County. His farm is situated on section 9, of Berlin Township. He is a son of Amos Otis, a native of New York, who was born in 1820, and through life pursued the business of a farmer. He was a very early settler of Michigan, coming to this State with his parents when but nine years of age. The father of Amos Otis took up Government land in 1828, within six miles of the present city hall at Detroit. This land has been in the family ever since and is still owned by the father of our subject. Amos Otis' wife Phila (Harwood) Otis, was also a native of New York, being born there in 1822. They were married in Berlin Township, Ionia County, February 17, 1841, and then went back to the farm near Detroit where they have resided ever since. On February 17, 1891, they celebrated their golden wedding at the old homestead. The father of Mrs. Amos Otis came to this township in a very early day. She and her husband are the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are now living. They were formerly members of the Baptist Church but for some time have belonged to the Methodist Church in the affairs of which they take an active interest.

Asa H. Otis, the grandfather of our subject, was a member of the Michigan State Legislature in 1850, also of the Michigan State Constitutional Convention in 1835. For four years he was under-Sheriff at Detroit. He also for many years held the office of Supervisor and was Justice of the

Peace in his township. During those early days and indeed throughout his life he was a prominent politician, being a Jacksonian Democrat and carrying great weight with the followers of his party. He came to Michigan a poor man and bought eighty acres of wild land. When he had purchased for home consumption, one barrel of pork, one barrel of flour and a jug of molasses, and had brought his family to the new home he had \$5 left. At his death at the age of fifty-eight years, he owned five hundred acres of land near Detroit, three hundred and twenty acres at Grand Rapids, and a large tract in Lapeer County. He was in other ways besides that of farming a prominent business man, being a great trader, undertaking large transactions. He constructed the plank road from Plymouth to Detroit.

Amon Otis was the eldest child of his parents, being born October 30, 1842, in the old homestead in Wayne County, Mich. He availed himself of the best education which could be obtained in the district schools of that region, until at seventeen years of age he went to the State Normal School at Ypsilanti, of which institution he was a member for two terms. He began teaching school at nineteen years of age in Ionia County, and for five winters the district schools of Berlin Township knew him as one of their most capable and earnest teachers. Except this experience in the schoolroom he has adhered to his business as a farmer.

Our subject was married March 24, 1866, to Cynthia Harwood, a daughter of Isaac Harwood, of Berlin Township (see sketch of father). This lady was born July 25, 1847, in Orleans Township, Ionia County. She had been prepared in the common schools for the profession of a teacher, and taught until her marriage. After this event our subject worked a farm upon the shares for two years until 1867, when he settled upon the farm which he now occupies. It comprised eighty acres of perfectly wild, raw land and heavy timber. At the same time that he was occupied in clearing off this land, breaking and cultivating it, he worked the land of others upon shares. A log house made their home until fourteen years ago, when he built his present residence at a cost of \$1,500. The barns, outbuildings and fences upon this farm have been

put up by him. He carries on mixed farming, and has a fine orchard and small fruit in cultivation. This couple were the parents of five children. Their eldest daughter, Sarah P., has but a year more to complete a full course at the State Normal School. She is now teaching at Sand Beach, Huron County, Mich. Nora is a student at the Ionia High School. The third daughter, Myrtie, is deceased. The remaining children are Lee and Burt.

Mr. Otis is a member of the Masonic order at Ionia, is also a Granger in which organization he has been for many years a Master and is so at present. His intelligence and ability cause him to stand well in the estimation of his neighbors. This has been shown by his being placed for years upon the School Board, also by his election in 1870 to the office of Supervisor of Berlin Township in which office he served for three years, and was at another time returned to the same position. In 1874 he was elected County Treasurer. This office he held two years. He has also been Clerk of Berlin Township. His political convictions are with the Democratic party and he has always taken a lively interest in politics.



ABRAM HUNT. Among the old-timers in Orange Township, Ionia County, we find the subject of this sketch. He is indeed the last survivor of all those who were playmates together here nearly sixty years ago. He is the son of William Hunt who was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y. He was a hatter by trade but later in life took up the business of farming. The family on the paternal side are Quakers. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary Shaddock. She was united in marriage to William Hunt in New York State, and resided there until 1828, when he came to Michigan and settled as a pioneer in Washtenaw County. Three years later, in 1831, he came to Ionia County and located at Lyons, where he carried on a business of trading with the Indians for several years.

In May, 1834 the father of our subject brought his family and located in Lyons, three years later

settling on a farm in Ionia Township on section 24, on unbroken land. In Lyons Township at that time the only settlers were Franklin Chubb, Nathau Benjamin, and another family named Moore. In Ionia Township there were the McCalvey family, who came here three days earlier than Mr. Hunt, and Henry B. Leibhardt. There was then no one residing in Orange Township and only a small settlement at Ionia. Mr. Hunt built a log house for his family and began to clear off his land, eighty acres being all timber. Wild animals and Indians abounded. He improved thirty acres of his farm during his eighteen years of residence there, and then sold it, and went up Grand River about three miles into Lyons Township. There he bought eighty acres of new land, built a frame house and improved about thirty acres of that farm. He died in 1857, his wife following him in 1864. Of their six children five are now living: Louisa, Mrs. Stephen Bunker; our subject; Ruth S.; Mrs. Benjamin Thompson; Cynthia, Mrs. Densmore, deceased; William W., and Sarah M., Mrs. Micajah Sherman. Mrs. William Hunt was by faith a Universalist. Her husband was active in matters of public interest, helping to organize Lyons Township, and being one of the first Road Commissioners of the township. He also helped organize the first lodge of the Masonic order in Ionia County. It was located at Portland.

Abram Hunt was born December 11, 1822, in Ontario County, N. Y., and hence was twelve years of age when he made his first appearance in Michigan. It was before the days of schools and he had great fun running wild with the Indian boys. He, however, attended the first school organized in Lyons Township and had for his teacher Miss Susan Moore, afterward Mrs. Boyer. Until he was twenty-two years of age he staid at home and helped his father, after which he went West, spending two years in Iowa, working out by the month. He returned home and bought a farm of eighty acres on section 6, in Portland Township. Settling upon it he began to improve this raw land and built a small frame house upon it, in which he kept "bachelor's hall" for three years.

In 1853 the subject of this sketch married Frances A. Hoyt, a daughter of Lewis and Betsey

Hoyt, of New York, then living in Jackson County, Mich., and early settlers of that county. The parents of Mrs. Hunt had each a child by a previous marriage, and three children by this union. Mrs. Hunt was born in 1832, and died in 1859. Mr. Hunt's second marriage was with Miss Mary Jane Bugby in 1864. She was born in Seneca County, Ohio, her parents having come there from New York. They had emigrated to Michigan about 1854. By this second marriage Abram Hunt had one child, Frank A., whose mother died December 9, 1890, at the age of fifty years. Mr. Hunt moved on his present farm on section 1, in the fall of 1856, and at once proceeded to clear it of the heavy timber which was growing thereon. He has eighty acres, a residence, barns and all other necessary buildings. He also has sixty acres cleared off and cultivated, all by his own labor, although when he began he had nothing. At the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Ninth Michigan Infantry and served as a private eleven months until honorably discharged on account of sickness.

The subject of this sketch has been the Treasurer of the School Board in Portland Township, also Road Overseer a number of times. His first vote was cast for James K. Polk and he has always taken an interest in politics, belonging to the Democratic party, although voting for Lincoln at his first election. He still actively carries on his farm himself. He is the last one of those who were in this neighborhood at the time of his settlement here.

ARTHUR N. HALL, son of one of the earliest settlers of Ionia Township and Ionia County, owns and occupies a small but valuable farm on section 7. His estate includes forty acres of well-developed land, about half of which was cleared by himself. To his efforts are due its present improvements, including the well-made fences, ample outbuildings, and the tasteful residence which was built at a cost of about \$2,500. The thriving orchard was set out by Mr. Hall, and he derives a good income from the sale

of mixed crops which he raises upon his own land and forty acres adjoining, together with a thirty elsewhere that he rents. Having learned the trade of carpentry he frequently works at it, when his farm work will allow.

Joshua S. Hall, father of our subject, settled here more than half a century ago, but is now a resident of Easton Township and one of its wealthiest men. He is a member of the Pioneer Society of Ionia County and is well known among the old settlers. His wife, formerly Sarah A. Haight, is still living and is now about threescore and ten years old. Their family comprises seven sons and daughters, of whom our subject is the third in order of birth. His natal day was February 22, 1848, and his birthplace the township of which he is still a resident. He received a district-school education and further prepared himself for the affairs of life by attending a business college at Grand Rapids. He has always been a farmer, and being obliged to show his ability by doing for himself, he rented a farm when twenty-one years old and carried it on for a year. He then bought forty acres in Orleans Township—an improved tract—and lived upon it four years. At the expiration of that time he sold out, and bought and removed to his present estate.

The wife of Mr. Hall bore the maiden name of Tilla Martin and is a daughter of Andrew and Leonora (Martin) Martin, natives of Canada and New York respectively. Mr. Martin was a soldier in his young days, belonging to a Canadian regiment, and upon leaving the army he turned his attention to farming. He was married in Canada, whence he came to this State in 1864, settling in Otisco Township, Ionia County. A few years later he removed to Easton Township, which was his permanent place of abode. He was born in August 1808, and died May 24, 1882. His widow still occupies the homestead; she is now seventy-six years old. Of her children, seven in number, four are now living.

Mrs. Hall was born near Pelham, Canada, November 15, 1853, and received a common-school education in this State. She became the wife of our subject February 22, 1872, and to them have been born three children, whose record is as fol-



Grubb

lows: Cora E., born in Orleans Township, February 6, 1873; Roy A., in the same township, June 4, 1875; Herbert C., in Ionia Township, October 8, 1884. All are bright and quick of comprehension and the sons are doing good work in the district school. The daughter has been a student in the Ionia High School and has taught in the county for a year. She is a very good performer upon the organ and has given music lessons. Both Cora and Roy belong to the Patrons of Industry and Roy is Sentinel in the lodge. There is a literary society connected with the organization, and the entire family take part in its exercises, even little Herbert bearing a part.

At conventions of the Republican party Mr. Hall has frequently acted as a delegate and he is sure to be at the polls when the ballot box is open. He has been Drainage Commissioner of the township and is now serving his second term; he was Supervisor of Orleans Township three years, and thirteen in Ionia Township, and he has been Director of the local School Board and in Orleans Township he filled a similar position four years. He has taken an active part in the work of the Grange and is now identified with the Patrons of Industry and has been President of the lodge for a year past. Mrs. Hall is Treasurer of the same body. Both uphold temperance principles, and by example and precept endeavor to stand on the side of right and justice. Mrs. Hall and Cora and Roy belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Hall is now President of the Ionia County Bee Association and is also President of the County Alliance.



SYDNEY GROFF. Among the many prominent families in Ionia County none are more worthy of representation in this ALBUM than the Groffs, whose head was removed from the scenes of earth but a short time since, leaving a void not easily filled. Mr. Groff was one of the best of citizens, esteemed for his honesty and sterling integrity in business, for his public spirit and enterprise, and for the private virtues that made him a good friend and neighbor.

He possessed a good degree of business ability, as was evidenced by the fact that he began as a poor youth and left an estate valued at about \$9,000. A part of this was a farm on section 13, Easton Township, where his widow still makes her home.

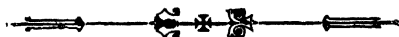
Mr. Groff's paternal grandfather was a German, who upon emigrating to America established a home in Warren County, N. J. There the family has remained generation after generation. The maternal ancestors of Mr. Groff are said to have been Irish. In the neighborhood that has been the home of the family for many, many years, Sydney Groff was born June 22, 1814. Under the care of his good parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Clawson) Groff, he grew to a sturdy manhood, adding to his common-school education considerable knowledge gained by reading and close observation of business methods. For several years after his marriage his home was in Niagara County, N. Y., and from there he removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, in 1840.

After living in the Buckeye State a quarter of a century Mr. and Mrs. Groff came to Ionia County, and in Easton Township our subject spent the greater part of his time until his decease. During his later years he was engaged in money-lending, but much of his earlier life had been devoted to to farming. He passed away December 4, 1889. He had been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a member of an Odd Fellows lodge in Ionia and had been from its organization. His political affiliations were with the Democratic party.

Mrs. Maria Groff, widow of our subject, is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., having been born in the city of Poughkeepsie, April 14, 1818. She is a daughter of Nehemiah and Elizabeth (Reynus) Tompkins and is the only survivor of their twelve sons and daughters. She had several brothers in the War of 1812. She lost her mother when she was but fourteen months old, but her father survived until she was seventeen. Her education was obtained in the district schools. When sixteen years old she went to live with an uncle, John W. Stone of Niagara County, and in his family she remained until her marriage to Mr. Groff, which interesting event took place March 9, 1837. Mrs.

Groff is of English lineage on her father's side and traces the maternal line to Holland. During the years of her wedded life she was a faithful counselor and an efficient helpmate, and rendered her husband valuable aid in all the affairs of life. She is still occupying the residence near the city of Ionia where they spent many happy days together, and around which her circle of acquaintance extends for many miles, while her friends are counted by scores.

A lithographic portrait of the late Mr. Groff appears on another page of the ALBUM.



MARQUIS L. McCRUMB. The home of this worthy farmer and good citizen is on section 36, Danby Township, and is one of the well-improved farms of Ionia County. It was bought by him when scarcely any improvements had been made upon it and he has placed it in its present condition. Crops of various kinds are raised, chief attention being given to the cereals adapted to the climate of this region, and a strict attention is given by the owner to the management of the estate. Mr. McCrumb is a veteran of the Civil War and enjoys the distinction of being one of those who first entered the service in August, 1861. His record as a soldier is one of valor and true patriotism, such as might well be expected from one in whose veins the blood of loyal ancestors runs.

The paternal grandfather of our subject belonged to the Colonial army in Revolutionary times and the father fought in the War of 1812, serving under Gen. Brown in Canada and being present at the famous battle of Lundy's Lane. The lineage is traced back to Scotland and that of our subject's mother to Ireland. William and Mary (Stewart) McCrumb, the parents of him of whom we write, were living in Lorain County, Ohio, when their son Marquis was born, December 19, 1837. The lad was small when they removed to Clinton County, this State, where the father died in 1846. The mother survived until 1858, when she too passed away. A son George carried on the home-

stead, upon which Marquis remained until he was of age. In 1860 he went to Missouri, remaining a year, then returning to Michigan and soon enrolling himself under the three months' call. He went to Grand Rapids where he was stationed two months, after which he returned to his home.

In August, 1861, Mr. McCrumb again enlisted, on this occasion becoming a member of Company E, Eighth Michigan Infantry, and going into camp at Washington. For two months he endured the routine of camp life and constant drilling, and then via Fortress Monroe went to South Carolina, landing at Hilton Head and going on to Beaufort Island. A slight skirmish took place there and the regiment made that their headquarters for nearly a year and were then sent to Ft. Pulaski and there took part in a heavy engagement. At Wilmington Island there was a hard fight, April 16, 1862, and at James Island another June 16, half of the regiment being killed or wounded in the latter engagement. The list of battles in which Mr. McCrumb participated includes Bull Run, August 29, 1862; Chantilly, September 1; South Mountain, September 14; Antietam, September 17; Fredericksburg, December 12, 13 and 14; siege of Vicksburg, June 22 to July 4, 1863; Jackson, Miss., July 11 to 18; Blue Springs, October 10; Loudon; Lenore Station, November 15; Campbell Station, November 16.

At Campbell Station Mr. McCrumb was less fortunate than he had been on other battlefields and was struck by a ball near the left eye. He was carried off the field and did not return to consciousness for several hours. The next day the ball was extracted from the back of the head and the doctors inserted a piece of silver to support his eyeball. In consequence of the wound Mr. McCrumb has lost the sight of one eye, and suffers intensely from the effects of the wound. He spent some time in the hospital at Knoxville, and soon after his return to his regiment veteranized with his comrades and came home on a furlough. The first action after his return to the South was the Wilderness, May 5, 6 and 7, 1864, and this was followed by Spottsylvania, May 10, 11 and 12; North Anna, May 24 and 25; Bethesda Church, June 2 and 3; Cold Harbor, June 7; Petersburg, June 17 and 18; and

the Crater, July 30. At the last-named battlefield Mr. McCrumb was wounded by a minie ball from a sharp shooter's rifle. He was struck on the top of the head toward the left side and was again borne from the field. He was given a short leave of absence while recovering, but was with the command in the fight at Weldon Railroad, August 19 to 21.

The following battles are added to the list already given, in which Mr. McCrumb acted the part of a brave soldier: Ream's Station, August 25, 1864; Poplar Spring Church, September 30; Pegram Farm, October 2; Boynton Road, October 8; Hatchie's Run, October 27 and 28; Ft. Steadman, March 25, 1865; and Ft. Mahon, April 2. His service was ended by participation in the siege of Petersburg, during which his ankle was injured by a piece of shell, leaving an ugly scar. Those who are familiar with the horrors of war will understand that there was much hazardous work taking place between the battles mentioned, and that a good soldier is deserving of credit for the manner in which he conducts himself during camp life and on the march. Mr. McCrumb was so unfortunate as to receive a bayonet wound in the right arm while on a foraging expedition, the rebels having made a charge on the Union wagon-train.

At the close of the war Mr. McCrumb returned to his former home and in a short time was located in Ionia County. He was the owner of seventy acres of land which he had bought while in the army, and this he sold, buying instead one hundred and sixty acres in Danby Township, which he set to work to improve. He subsequently sold that tract and bought one hundred and forty acres on section 25, and this in turn was disposed of and an eighty on section 36, purchased. No further change has been made in Mr. McCrumb's base of operations, but his energy has been expended on bringing about the best results from his farm and making his home comfortable.

The date of the marriage of Mr. McCrumb and Miss Rebecca Thuma was December 31, 1865. The bride's parents, Christian and Mary Thuma, were natives of Pennsylvania and from that State removed to Richland County, Ohio, in 1835. There their daughter Rebecca was born in March, 1838.

She is one of eight children reared by her parents, and had two brothers in the Union army. David returned home after three years of army life, but Joshua laid down his life in defense of the old flag. He enlisted in the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry February 5, 1862, and died near Corinth, Miss., June 19 following. Mrs. McCrumb traces her descent from a Revolutionary soldier who was her paternal great-grandfather.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCrumb six children have come, three of whom are living: Fidelia, Rolland and Calista. The eldest of these is the wife of W. J. Somers, who enjoys the distinction of being one of the youngest enlisted soldiers of the Civil War. He was born in Geauga County, Ohio, July 21, 1853, and enlisted October 2, 1862, when but nine years and three months old. He first served as teamster in the Twenty-first Ohio Battery, Light Artillery, and afterward became lanyard, his duty being to fire the gun. He was honorably discharged on his twelfth birthday, July 21, 1865, after having served two years, nine months and nineteen days.

Mr. McCrumb is a believer in Republican principles and has always voted the ticket of that party. He is a quiet, unassuming citizen, who takes no part in public affairs other than to express his opinion in the proper way and discharge the duties that lie before him in connection with his neighbors and family.



SAMUEL A. GIBBS, the eldest son of John M. and Almira (Clark) Gibbs, lives in Orange Township, Ionia County. His father is still living in Portland, but the mother is deceased. Six of their children are now living. Our subject was born August 7, 1833, in Massachusetts and came to Ohio with his parents when five years old. He lived in Portage County until 1854 when he came to Michigan. He received a district school education while in Ohio and through his youth and early manhood remained at home, giving his time and strength to the family interests. They all worked together for the common welfare, and there was no separation until after

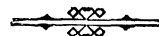
they came to Michigan. They settled on section 19, Portland Township, on one hundred and fifty acres, which was a little improved but had no buildings except an old log house. The residence was built in 1854, and was the third frame house in this neighborhood. The next year they built a barn. There were about twenty-five acres in cultivation, but it is now all under the plow.

Our subject was married in March, 1854, to Miss Mary E. Savage, a daughter of Portus and Clarissa (Raymond) Savage, both natives of Vermont. Mr. Savage's two wives were sisters. He was a farmer and merchant in Portage County, Ohio, of which he was a pioneer. He afterward sold out and went to Indiana and settled upon a farm in the southern part of the State. Both he and his wife died there. By his first marriage he had one child, Mrs. Gibbs, and by the second three sons, all now living. He was an active member of the Congregational Church. During the Morgan raid in Indiana he had quite a serious experience, having three horses stolen and being himself chased, captured and shot at, by the men of the Morgan band. The ball cut his hat, barely grazing his head. Mrs. Gibbs was born July 5, 1832, in Portage County, Ohio, where she received a good education and taught school before her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs are the parents of two children: Frank H., is foreman in a hardware store in West Bay City, Mich.; he has a good business education and at one time kept books in the office of Sage & Co., at Bay City. Lena E. is a student in the Business College at Bay City. In 1855 Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs bought eighty acres on section 13, where they now live. The site of their residence was the first land in the neighborhood to be improved. There was a log house upon it when our subject went there to live. He has cleared all the eighty acres and added to it so that he now has one hundred and twenty acres, one hundred of which are under the plow. He built his present residence twenty years ago at a cost of \$2,000. His farm is in excellent condition and he has taken an active interest in every improvement put upon it, having set out a fine orchard which is in good bearing condition. He carries on mixed farming and for about four-teen years has been interested in cheese-making.

For two years past he has made cheese upon his own farm, and for awhile he carried on a meat market at Portland.

Mr. Gibbs' first wife died July 1, 1882. She was an earnest and active member of the Baptist Church. His second union was with Mrs. Lucinda (Dennison) Williams, in March, 1883. She was born in Portage County, Ohio, fifty years ago, and received a good schooling. By her former marriage she had three children, one of whom is now living. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Gibbs belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is active in the Patrons of Industry, having been Treasurer of the same. He has also been Treasurer of Orange Township for four years, and Highway Commissioner for one year. He has taken an active interest in politics and votes the Republican ticket. His neighbors have frequently made him delegate to county and district conventions. At the district Fair he has taken both first and second premiums on cheese.



SAMUEL O. HOSFORD. Such legal matters as require the counsel and advice of a lawyer at Lake Odessa, Ionia County, are generally given to Mr. Hosford for settlement. He is carrying on the real-estate and insurance business, together with that of collecting. He is one of those who seem able to turn their attention to several occupations, and as the following paragraphs will show he has diverted his energy into divers lines with a greater or less degree of success.

The parents of our subject were Roswell and Sarah (Stillwell) Hosford; the father was born in Connecticut and of English ancestry, and the mother a native of New York and of Dutch stock. During his youth Mr. Hosford worked at the cooper's trade but when he grew older turned his attention to farming and carried it on in Livingston County, N. Y., until 1845. He then removed to Hillsdale County, this State, carried on agricultural work there until 1852 and then came to Ionia County. His first home here was on a farm in North Plains Township, and in 1867 he removed to Odessa Township,

buying farm land in connection with his son. There he remained until called from time to eternity in 1881. He was bereft of his wife in 1872. Both belonged to the Baptist Church. They had two children, the elder of whom is Minerva A., now the widow of John A. Fuller and living in Omaha, Neb.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Livingston County, N. Y. March 7, 1833, and remained there until he was twelve years old. In the meantime he had been pursuing the studies taught in the district school, and after the removal of the family to this State he continued his studies in Hillsdale County until he was seventeen years old.

He then secured a position as clerk in a store at Jonesville, where he staid about three years, then clerked in Hillsdale for twelve months. The gold fever attacked him and going to New York he took passage for California, via the Isthmus. On his arrival amid the gold fields he engaged in mining and followed that pursuit industriously about four years, after which he took up the profession of teaching. For two years he taught, and the remaining time until October, 1864, he devoted to farming. At that time he returned to New York by the water route and came to his parents' home.

The following spring Mr. Hosford bought property in North Plains Township, Ionia County, which after farming three years he exchanged for a tract in Odessa Township. He operated the second estate until 1872, then he engaged in mercantile business at Bonanza and divided his attention between the two occupations. Upon giving up his store he gave his time entirely to his farm until the fall of 1876, when he was elected County Clerk, which position he filled until January 1, 1879. At the close of his official life he returned to the farm and occupied it until 1888, when he moved to Lake Odessa and gave his attention to business in lines before mentioned. The fall after his removal to town he sold his farm.

The wife of Mr. Hosford, with whom he was united April 23, 1868, bore the maiden name of Annis A. Tupper. She was born in Odessa Township and was the first white girl to open her eyes to the light within its bounds. Her father, Myron Tupper, a native of Monroe County, N. Y., came to this

State to look for land in 1839 and learning that there was Government land to be had in Ionia County, he came here at once and entered a tract in Odessa Township. It was on section 27, and through it flowed a small stream while a lake, now known as Tupper's Lake, mirrored the trees upon its bosom. Mr. Tupper was the first settler in the township, and had the ambition and nerve to make his way through the trackless timbers to seek a home. He suffered all the trials incident to pioneer life but survived them, and lived to see prosperity and high civilization in the once wild expanse. He died March 3, 1880, about twenty years after his wife had passed away, the date of her demise being December 24, 1860.

Mr. Hosford has been School Inspector and Highway Commissioner and at present is Secretary of the School Board. In discharging the duties of office he is careful and conscientious, and anxious to push forward the affairs which are in his charge to the best results possible. He has been a member of the Masonic order about eighteen years. He is a man of much public spirit, and toward the advancement and improvement of the vicinity in which he lives he has done all that lay in his power. He and his wife are well known, not only in the township in which they have so long lived, but in the country round about, and both are respected by their acquaintances. Mrs. Hosford is a member of the Baptist and Mr. Hosford is connected with the Christian Church.



MARCUS J. FISK, well known in Lyons and Muir, Ionia County, is engaged in the livery business at those places and also runs a line of busses. He is a native of Niagara County, N. Y., the date of his birth being November 1, 1854, and his parents Marcus R. and Mary (Perrine) Fisk. They were born in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties respectively, and the father was an extensive farmer. They removed to Illinois in 1855, settling near Belvidere and remaining there two years. Thence they went

to Benton County, Iowa, making that locality their home nine years, the husband still carrying on farm work. Their next removal was to Ionia County, this State, and in Lyons Township they permanently remained. The wife died in April, 1884, and the husband December 30, 1888.

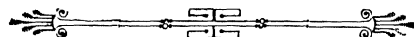
The Fisk family is of Welsh stock, but James Fisk, grandfather of our subject, was a native of New York. In the same State the maternal grandfather, James Perrine, was also born, he being of French ancestry. While living in Iowa, the father of Marcus J. Fisk was a Supervisor, and in his later home he was well known and foremost in good deeds, never turning a needy one from his door unaided. He was a member of the Grange and of the Democratic party. The members of his family are Mrs. Francis Hill, Mrs. Emily Hartman, Mrs. May Wood, and he whose life is our topic.

Our subject was reared amid the usual surroundings of rural life, early taking up his share of the farm labors and becoming conversant with all that pertains to the management of an estate. For some years prior to leaving the homestead he had charge of the same and in 1883 he became its purchaser and returned to it for a year's residence. He then rented it until 1886, at which time he sold out. The education of Mr. Fisk was gained in Lyons, and he has a fair supply of book knowledge and much practical wisdom. He first left home in 1878, and when he rented the farm a few years later he again took up the cares of business life in town, coming to Lyons which has since been his home.

In 1887 Mr. Fisk bought the livery stable and bus line, and he includes both the Detroit, Lansing & Northern, and Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee Railroads in his stations. In Lyons he has a stable 40x60 feet, with a shed and a storage building 20x60 feet, and he keeps twelve or fourteen horses and two busses. At Muir he has one barn 35x60 feet and another 20x35 with a lean-to, and keeps such a supply of teams and equipages is the business in the place demands. He employes three or four men in each village, and has the handling of the mails and the express business. He has made a good living, some provision for future needs, and has purchased three dwellings in Lyons

from the rental of two of which he adds to his income.

In 1878 Mr. Fisk won an estimable wife, Miss Nettie Buck, of Lyons, daughter of Jacob and Clarissa (May) Buck, and a capable, true-hearted woman, with good education and social qualities. The family circle includes two children—Edna C. and Don M. Mr. Fisk is connected with the Masonic order and votes the Democratic ticket. He is a member of the Village Board and is one who displays the public spirit that aids in the progress of the town. He has a pleasing personality and many are the friends he can claim.



SAMUEL H. BAIRD, a man of Scottish descent and of patriotic lineage, resides on section 27, Home Township, Montcalm County. He has been one of the most extensive manufactures of shingles and lumber in the county or State and owns a fine farm of two hundred and five acres. He is the son of William B., the son of Jonathan, who came when a small child from Glasgow, Scotland, with his parents. Young Jonathan made a matrimonial alliance with a lady of wealth and family, Miss Lucy Bell, a daughter of the Hon. Judge Bell, a Revolutionary hero and an intimate friend of Washington's.

This family are intense lovers of the horse and Jonathan had the family characteristic. Through the War of 1812 he rode a horse named "Curley" of almost human intelligence, who saved his master's life over and over again. Upon one occasion when Jonathan was taken prisoner and confined in Canada the Canadian General's favorite horse was very sick and no one could treat it. Capt. Baird's knowledge of the horse and his diseases enabled him to save this valuable animal, and the liberty given him as a reward gave him opportunity to to escape. He fled on horseback and swam the river to the New York shore. After this war he kept a livery and sale stable in Buffalo. His family were wealthy and made their home at Erie, Pa., where he died.

The father of our subject was reared in Erie,

Pa., and was early apprenticed as a carpenter and millwright, and became a fine mechanic. He was engaged in building mills and factories throughout that region. In 1848 he removed with his family to Ohio in carriages. Stopping to visit his brother at Willoughby, Lake County, he found him in distress, as a freshet had washed out his mill. The millwright brother repaired and put it in working order, and by that time liked the country well enough to remain. In 1851 he came to Michigan and located on his farm in Grattan Township, Kent County. In accordance with the family love for the horse he had studied as a veterinary surgeon.

In 1862 William D. Baird enlisted in a Michigan Cavalry regiment, and soon received the appointment as Veterinary Surgeon of the Third Division. He served in this position until he was seriously injured while making his escape from the enemy. His horse fell upon him and for days he was insensible. He received an honorable discharge and a pension of \$72 per month as his health had not only been ruined, but his eyesight destroyed, in consequence of his experience on the battlefield. He now makes his home with his children. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Pease, was born in Massachusetts September 21, 1811. Her girlhood home was near Dunkirk, N. Y., where she was well educated and early showed signs of unusual intellectual and literary ability. She taught school when only thirteen years of age and continued in this profession until her marriage. She was poetically inclined and was a fine writer as well as reader. She died at the home of our subject in the fall of 1872. Her funeral sermon was preached from the text selected by herself "I have fought a good fight; I have finished the faith."

Of the seven children of this interesting and superior couple, only three survive: Our subject, William H. and Lucy M., now Mrs. Beck. The second son, William, followed the patriotic instincts of the family and when only nineteen years of age enlisted at the first tap of the drum to help fill President Lincoln's first call for three months' men. He belonged to the Third Michigan Volunteers. They were discharged at the end of their

term and he promptly re-enlisted in the same regimental company and served until the close of the war. He entered the army a robust boy, but during his term of service lost his health and now never sees a well day. He is residing near Lake View, in this county. The third son, James, met his death at Cedar Springs, June 16, 1863, by being scalded through the carelessness of an engineer.

The subject of this sketch was born in Erie, Pa., December 9, 1836. During his residence in Ohio he helped to draw stone to the piers of the Michigan Southern Railroad and worked at teaming and in a sawmill. He became a practical sawyer while still very young. When the family removed in 1851 to Grattan Township, Kent County, this State, he went right into the milling business and had numerous engagements and business connections with the proprietors of the best sawmills in that part of the country. He was eagerly sought for as head sawyer. During this time he met with a serious misfortune in the loss of his right eye through a blow received from a sharp stick. He was foreman in the Whitney mill until 1863, when his brother's sad death so unsettled him as to lead him to change his business connection.

In 1861 our subject volunteered into the army, but was refused on account of his blind eye. In 1863 he bought one-half interest in Kidd's mill and after remaining there two years filled various engagements with proprietors of sawmills in numerous places. He engaged in the manufacture of shingles at Crystal Lake, in this county, and with a partner, Gilbert Stover, built a gristmill. They had a large business, so large that they were obliged to put in steam, and were making a great success of it when an enemy of his partner set fire to the mill and it burned down. This left our young man badly incumbered with debt. Again at Pine Lake he was burned out, and then was \$18,000 in debt.

The confidence of one's friends in one's integrity and ability is sometimes like cash in the pocket, and it was so in this case. Nothing daunted, Mr. Baird bought a tract of land valued at \$23,000. He set up a double-shingle mill with the latest im-

provements and backed by moneyed friends went to work. Here he obtained the reputation of having the best mill in the State, and was able to manufacture shingles at the nominal cost of sixty-five cents a thousand. A Big Rapids firm, Foster Blackman & Co. gladly went into partnership with him and they built a lumber manufactory and pushed a large business, but the flame of the destroyer again pursued him. The whole camp, mills and all were burned down. Mr. Baird has probably lost a fortune of \$100,000 by fires exclusive of insurance.

The firm rebuilt the mills and continued work there until all the pine was manufactured. In 1885 he went to Big Rapids and there contracted with Wyman & Rumsey to cut over thirty million feet of lumber. This occupied him for more than two years. After this he went to Rheinlands, Wis., and built a large shingle, lumber and lath mill. Here he did a large business, cutting over ninety-seven thousand feet of lumber, forty-five thousand shingles and thirty thousand feet of lath a day. He then sold his mill and invested the money in North Carolina pine lands and removed to the old place in Michigan, where his old mill stood. This land he has improved and it is now a splendid farm. He has always been in general merchandise along with his lumber manufacturing.

Mr. Baird has always found his recreation in the cultivation of fine stock. His hobby is horses, of which he is a good judge. He raises the Percheron and Clydesdale strains and has some fine grades of Short-horn and Galloway cattle. Poland-China hogs also engage his attention. He is looking forward to building this spring a beautiful and commodious home about half a mile from Edmore. His first marriage took place near Sand Lake in 1863. His wife, whose maiden name was Julia A. Clark, died in 1874, leaving no children. The lady who now presides over his home became Mrs. Baird March 12, 1882. She was Roxie A., daughter of Henry Wilson. Her parents now live at Cedar Spring.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Baird, three of whom, Henry G., Harry W. and S. Lavern, are now living. This gentleman has been the most extensive lumber manufacturer in the township. He operated mills for himself twenty

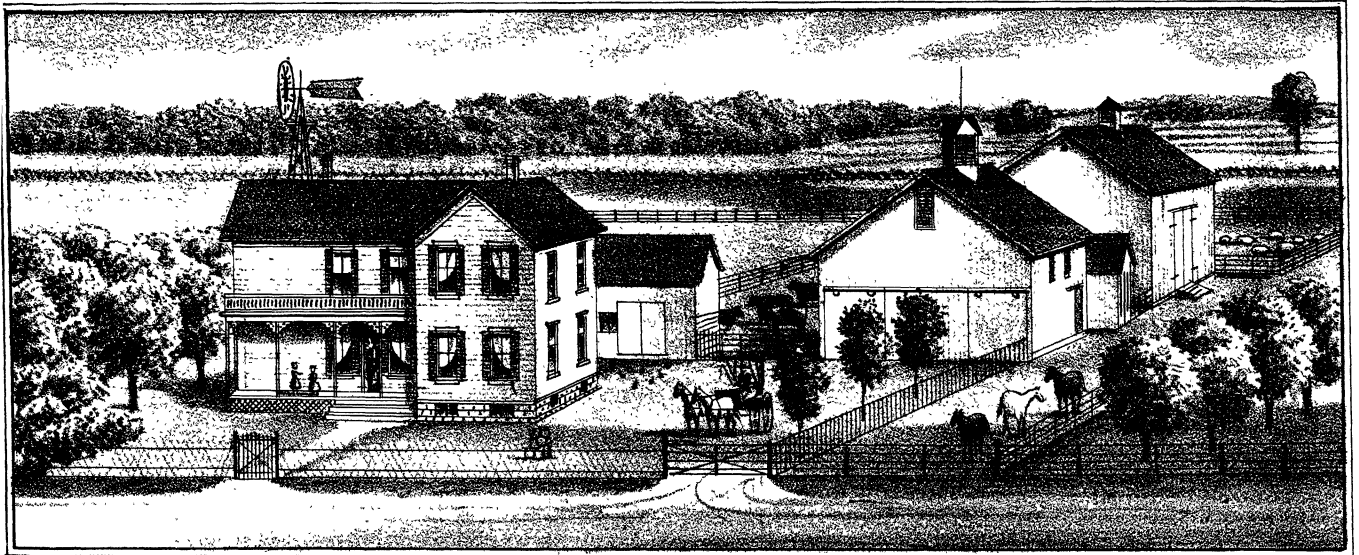
years and for others even longer than that. He is a staunch Republican and a liberal and open-hearted citizen. He is ever public-spirited and solicitous for the welfare of the community.



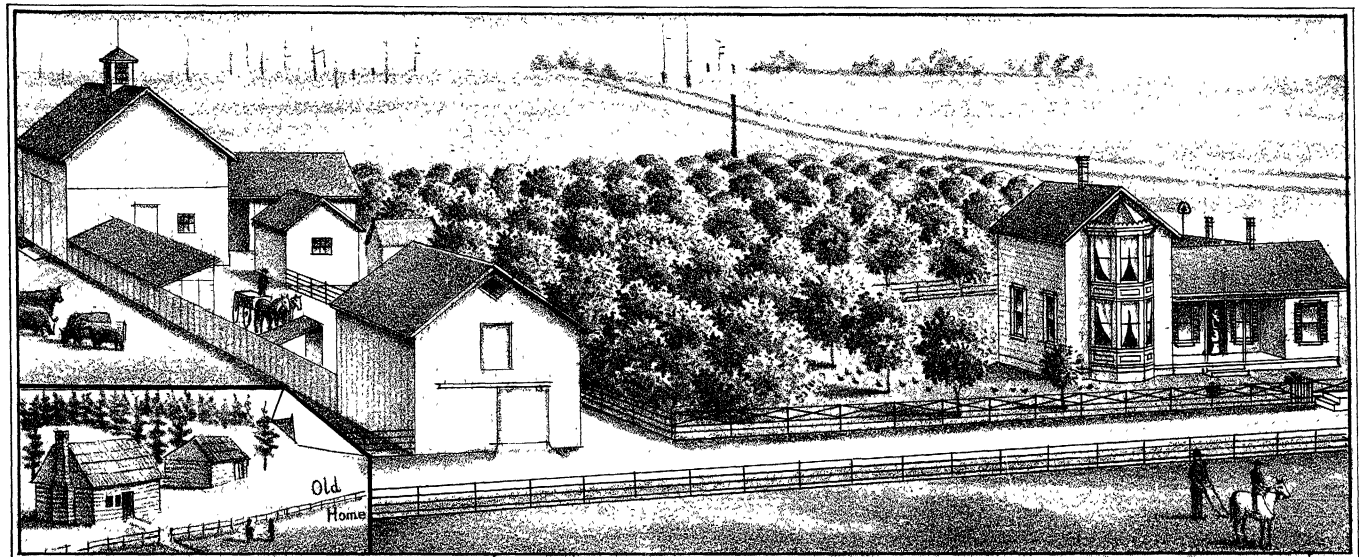
ELI A. COLEMAN. A representative of the good old stock of New England, Mr. Coleman is the eldest son of Beckett Coleman, who was born September 29, 1801, in Connecticut. When a young man the father was an operative in a woolen mill but afterward became a farmer. Our subject's mother bore the maiden name of Harriet Stratton, and was born in New York May 10, 1806. Her father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving through seven years of hardship and conflict. She was married to Beckett Coleman in New York about 1825. After residing there for some years they removed to Huron County, Ohio, where they remained until they came to Michigan in 1844, and settled on section 26, Orange Township, Ionia County, where our subject now lives. Beckett Coleman took up eighty acres of timber land directly from the United States Government. After paying for this purchase he was empty-handed, but with courage and independence he went ahead to subdue the wilderness. He built a log house, cleared about fifty acres of timber land and became closely identified with the progress of this section.

Beckett Coleman and his good wife were members of the Free Will Baptist Church, the local branch of which he helped to organize. In politics he was first a Democrat but later became a Republican. A man of temperate habits, through his long residence of thirty-four years in the State he was an example of manly and upright living. He and his wife became the parents of nine children of whom four are now living: Our subject was the eldest; the others are David E.; Louisa, Mrs. Douglas; and Esther, Mrs. John Wells. The mother died June 11, 1858, but the father survived until May, 1878.

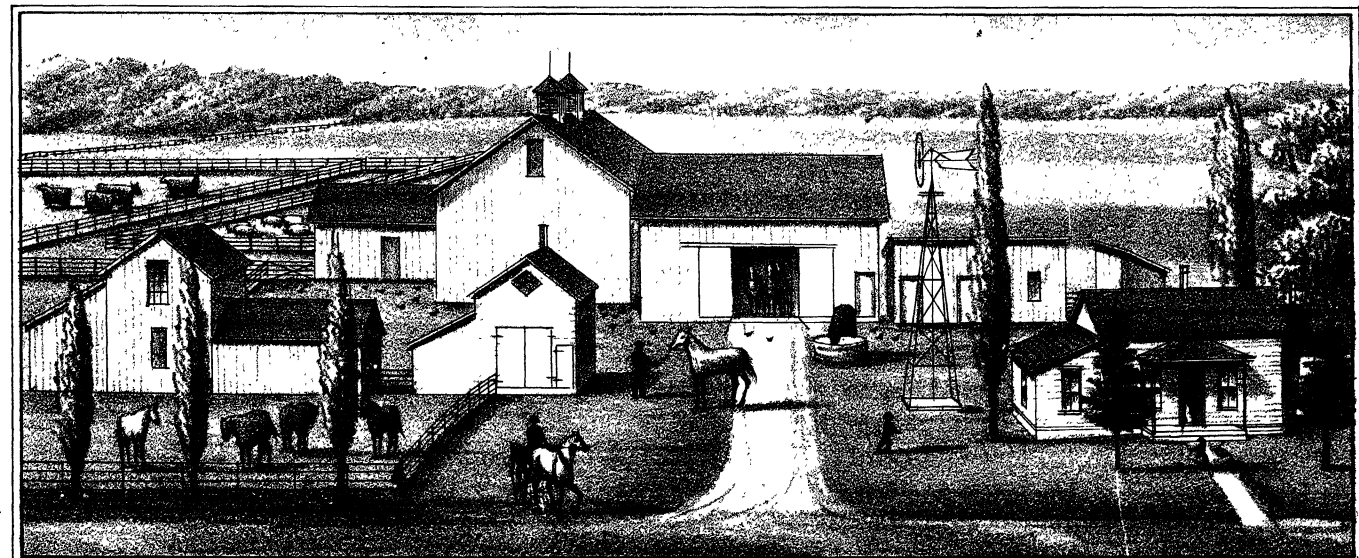
The subject of this sketch was born September 20, 1827, in Jefferson County, N. Y. He received



RESIDENCE OF ELI A. COLEMAN, SEC. 26. ORANGE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF LUTHER HANDY, SEC. 6. DAY TP., MONTCALM CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF LEWIS H. FERGUSON, SEC. 21. ORANGE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

a common-school education in Ohio, which has been largely supplemented by his studious habits, maintained throughout manhood. He was nearly eighteen years old when his parents came to Michigan and he staid with them until he reached his majority, then leaving home he went to Ottawa County and worked in a lumber camp by the month for three years. His industry and frugality enabled him when he returned to Ionia County to buy forty acres of land, a part of his present farm on section 26. It was all wild land, but he has improved and added to it and has cleared off two hundred acres for himself. He married December 2, 1855, Hannah Jane Smith, a daughter of Ebenezer and Nancy (Merrifield) Smith, who came to Michigan in Territorial days about 1835 and settled in Oakland County. Afterward they removed to Ionia County in 1843 and made their home in Orange Township. Mr. Smith lived until 1858, his wife surviving him until 1867. They were the parents of five sons and three daughters. Their daughter, Mrs. Coleman, was born June 25, 1827.

Eli A. Coleman and his first wife were the parents of two children—Ella S., born November 6, 1861, married Edmund Harwood. They live in Orange Township and have three children. Ida A., who was born July 16, 1863, died January 26, 1864. Three of his wife's brothers, Ebenezer, Milam and Ozem Smith served in the civil war. The first was an Orderly-Sergeant in the Ninth Michigan Infantry. Being taken sick he was sent home on a furlough and did not live to return. Milam was in the First Kansas Battery and was severely hurt by an accident. Ozem also served in the Ninth Michigan Infantry and now lives in this township.

Mr. Coleman is one of the heroes of the civil war, enlisting December 24, 1863, in Company K, First Michigan Engineers. He was a private and was promoted to the rank of Corporal, serving twenty-three months. He participated in the Tennessee campaign, marching with Sherman to the sea, and was present at the surrender of Gen. Johnston. He took part in the Grand Review at Washington in 1865, his regiment being the first in the Grand March. He was honorably discharged at Jackson, Mich., September 30, 1865, and joyfully returned

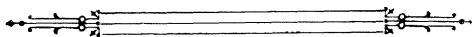
to his home and took up work on the farm. His wife died January 21, 1886. She was an earnest and conscientious member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Coleman was a second time married August 19, 1886, when Macy Lyda, a daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Rozell) Lyda, became his wife. Her father was born in Maryland in 1826 and her mother in New Jersey in 1828. They were married in Ohio and coming to Michigan in 1865, settled in Ionia County, in Danby Township, but later removed to Portland where they still live. Their four children are all living—Frank, Anna, (Mrs. Holliday), Mrs. Coleman and Jennie.

The present wife of our subject was born December 4, 1862, in Henry County, Ohio. She attended school at Portland, and taught for five years in this county, during the last two years in the village of Portland. She is the mother of two children—Grace H., born July 28, 1887, and Kitty Belle July 20, 1889. Both Mr. and Mrs. Coleman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he is a Trustee. For fifteen years he has been a member of the School Board.

As the result of unremitting industry, Mr. Coleman now has two hundred and forty acres of land, over two hundred of which are under the plow. He has given to his daughter Ella eighty acres of improved land. His present fine residence, a view of which is shown on another page, was erected some ten years ago at a cost of \$2,000. Mr. Coleman has set out orchards, built substantial farm buildings and owns fine stock. He carries on mixed farming and his corn and oats are all consumed by his numerous stock. He is a member of John McGarrah Post, No. 132, G. A. R., at Portland, also of the Patrons of Industry. He has been both Drainage Commissioner and Constable of Orange Township. Always taking an interest in politics he formerly voted the Republican ticket, but is now independent in regard to casting his ballot. He has always been a man of strictly temperate habits. His brother Hiram, was also a soldier, enlisting at the age of eighteen years and serving in a cavalry regiment in the State of Illinois being captured by the rebels at Cumberland Gap, he was imprisoned at Andersonville and died there. Mr.

Coleman is not content to enjoy his prosperity alone, but is a generous supporter of all good movements. He is a friend of all churches and is one to whom a building committee always go with confidence of help when there is a new church to be built.



LUTHER HANDY, an old settler of Michigan and a homesteader of Montcalm County, finds himself prosperous and respected, and comfortably prepared to enjoy the years which remain to him in life. He is descended from an old Connecticut family, his grandfather being a Revolutionary soldier, and in business a tanner and farmer. He settled in Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., when his son Russell, our subject's father, was only fourteen years old. In later years he removed to Elmira, N. Y., where he passed the remainder of his days.

The father, following in the steps of the grandfather of our subject, obeyed the call of his country and entered the army in the War of 1812. He was a Lieutenant in rank, and was raised to the position of Captain. He was offered a promotion to a Colonelcy, but this he declined saying he could not afford to be a Colonel because he had to treat the company too often. However, as they did not accept his resignation, to be rid of this onerous honor he removed to Allegany and bought a farm, where he remained until his death at the age of sixty years. He was always known as Captain Handy. He was a Presbyterian in religion, and a Whig in politics. The wife of Capt. Handy bore the maiden name of Eunice Houghton. Her father was in early life a New Hampshire farmer and stockman, and removed to Allegany County, N. Y., at an early day. His wife died in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y. They were by faith and church connections Presbyterians, and became the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., April 15, 1822. He took advantage of what education he could acquire in the district schools which were in

a crude condition, and remained at home until after he had reached his majority. His first coming to Michigan was in 1843, when he traveled as far as he could by boat and came on foot the rest of the way to Ionia County, stopping a day here and there as was necessary, to get a day's work and earn something to support him. He reached Orleans Township empty handed, and engaged to work for Daniel Hoyt on the farm, then an unbroken wilderness. He helped to clear the trees and had many adventures with wild game and Indians. In 1846 he decided to go to Wisconsin, and traveling on foot to Grand Haven took a boat to Kenosha, and then on foot again to the vicinity of Geneva, where he found an opportunity to help about the harvesting. He wandered about getting work as he could in one place and another, and in some places finding his expenses running quite ahead of the money paid him in wages. He finally returned to Ionia County in 1847, where he met his mother and sister and went back to New York State with them. His father having died he remained at home four years working the farm.

Until the year 1858 the subject of this sketch remained in the East, carrying on farming in different localities. In the fall of that year he was again taken with the Michigan fever, and coming West located in Ionia County. Buying forty acres in Orleans Township, he improved and farmed it for three years. His health then failed and he was assured by physicians that he would never be able to do any hard work, so he sold his farm and took the rest of the season to rest and recuperate. In the fall of 1860 he went to Wisconsin; the rest and the change of climate seemed to affect his health favorably, and he was able to do some work at plowing before his return home. He went back to New York State and remained there for five years engaging in farming. In 1861 he volunteered his services in the Union army, but was refused on account of his health.

In 1862 Mr. Handy became the husband of Mrs. Maria (Clark) Houghton, daughter of Daniel and Betsey Clark, and sister of George F. Clark, whose sketch appears in this book. In 1867 Mr. Handy and his wife came to Michigan and bought a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. Five years

later they proved up and secured this property. They began life in a log cabin which was blown down, and they had to build again. He has been liberal with his family, and given his wife forty acres in her own name and forty acres to his step-son. The latter inherited from his father some means which were used to improve the farm, and the tract of land was given to him later in return for the same. Mr. Handy now has eighty acres of finely improved land with barns and necessary out-buildings. Upon this he carries on general farming and stock-raising, keeping Short-horns and good grades of sheep, and two teams of excellent draft horses for working the farm. His chief crop is in potatoes, and in the culture of this crop both he and his step-son, Ole J. Houghton, are engaged. Mr. and Mrs. Handy are the parents of one son, Orville, who died at the age of nineteen years, and for whom the family greatly mourn.

Mr. Handy is an earnest and useful member of the Congregational Church, and active worker in the Sunday-school, helping to organize new schools, and serving as Superintendent and teacher. He is a Republican in politics, and is a temperance man. He has been a member of the School Board, having served as its Moderator, and his interest in education and religion has induced him to be very helpful in building churches and schoolhouses. A view of his pleasant home is presented on another page.



LEWIS H. FERGUSON. In a county that contains so many finely-improved farms and beautiful rural dwellings, it is hard to claim pre-eminence for any, but certainly any traveler through Orange Township, Ionia County, would at first glance decide that the estate of the subject of this sketch held a conspicuous place. It comprises a large acreage on section 21, under careful tillage and supplied with excellent improvements. The fine residence, with its attractive rural surroundings, is represented by a view on another page. It is furnished with all the modern conveniences, and gives evidence in its adornment and air of comfort that its interior is presided over by

a capable and tasteful housewife. Mr. Ferguson is the son of the Rev. Levi Ferguson, who was born in Vermont in 1808 and enjoyed an enviable reputation among his neighbors as an intelligent farmer and local preacher.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, Mr. Austin, was a substantial citizen of Oswego County, N. Y., and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Among the large family of daughters whom he reared was Ursulla, who was born in New York. The father of our subject passed through many trials and adversities in his early life. When only fourteen years of age he walked a distance of two hundred miles looking for work, which he found in Oswego County, N. Y., with Mr. Austin, who afterward became his father-in-law. For one year he worked at the trade of a blacksmith, and remained in that vicinity until he was twenty-five years old. He was for some time captain of a canal packet on the Erie Canal. One day a little girl fell overboard, and although he could not swim he jumped into the water and saved the child. She belonged to a family who were moving to Michigan and in later days he met the same family in their Western home. He was also a captain in the New York State militia.

Levi Ferguson was married to Ursulla Austin in Oswego County, and coming West in 1838 settled at Maple Corners in Lyons Township. His brother-in-law, J. H. Rowe, who came with him and settled in the same locality, was also a very popular man and was Postmaster and hotel-keeper for many years at Maple Corners. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which his father was a Deacon. About twenty-seven years ago Mr. Rowe removed from this community to Hillsdale County, where he died a few years later.

The father of our subject was in real poverty when he settled at Maple Corners on an unbroken farm. He cut down trees to build a log house, cleared his eighty-acre farm and by hard work and strict economy finally acquired two hundred acres. He was a man of sterling sense and good natural ability, but with little learning. He was one of the pioneer preachers of this section, beginning this work when about thirty years of age and being ordained as a minister in the Methodist Episcopal

Church. He used to travel about fifteen miles in every direction from his home, meeting preaching appointments. He once sent Lewis, then a boy, ten miles to tell a congregation that he could not be there, and for them to go on and hold prayer-meeting. He preached about forty years, and was finally called to his heavenly home in 1885. His good wife had gone before him in 1862. They were the parents of two children, the brother of our subject being Larmon Pilcher Ferguson, who is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, residing in Miami County, Kan.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch first saw the light of day in Oswego County, N. Y., December 1, 1834. He was but three and a half years old when he came to Michigan, traveling from Detroit to the new home on a prairie schooner. After taking a common-school education he entered Olivet College for one term and took two terms in Albion College. When he reached his majority he hired out to his father and worked for him for four years, being thus enabled to purchase forty acres of land, partly improved. He then married in April, 1857, Mary, one of the daughters of Nelson and Sophia (Pangborn) Tuttle. (See sketches of William Adgate, Almon Tuttle and Stewart Townsend which will be found elsewhere in this volume.) Mrs. Ferguson was born October 22, 1840, in Palmyra, Ohio, and is a lady of refinement and culture.

Mr. Ferguson improved and added to his farm until he had one hundred and sixty broad and productive acres. In 1870 he took the western fever and going to Kansas rented a farm in Johnson County and remained there two years, but his family connections and happy remembrances of early life drew him back to Michigan, and returning he took an unimproved farm, nearly all timber, with only five acres under the plow. Here he has carried on mixed farming, erected a fine home and first-class farm buildings, increasing his acreage largely and is about to retire from active service. To him and his good wife have been born five children, namely: Sophia, Mrs. C. I. Goodwin, the mother of three children, lives on section 16; Otis L., who married Mary Carbaugh, is the father of one child and resides in Orange Township; Emery

T. is operating the home farm and remains under the parental roof; William married Allie Rittenburgh and lives on the home farm with their two children; and Elton L., now eight years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Ferguson has been a Steward. Socially he is a member of the Patrons of Industry and is in all respects a public-spirited man. He is a member of the School Board and deeply interested in politics, voting the Republican ticket. He is a very strong temperance man and leans to prohibition. Mr. Ferguson's ability to break and train young horses is something remarkable and he is daily proving that the lower animals are directly amenable to education. He has nineteen head of horses and breeds the Hambletonian stock. At the head of his stud stands a splendid six-year-old dapple-bay stallion, "Medon Goodrich," by "Chauncey Goodrich" by "Marshall Chief." This young horse is one of the finest in the West, in style, build and disposition, and a better broken horse can nowhere be found. Mr. Ferguson has trained horses for over thirty years and is eminently successful in this line of work.



JOHN D. HARRINGTON is the oldest settler in Day Township, Montcalm County. He first came here in 1862, and has for more than thirty years occupied a prominent place in the community. Both his father William and his grandfather Richard were natives of Rutland, Vt., of English descent. The grandfather who was born in 1756, was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and fought all through the war. After that he removed to Portage, now in Summit County, Ohio, and opened a large farm of two hundred and sixty acres. He was a famous hunter and fisher in his day. The father of our subject, although only a boy of twenty-one when he went to Ohio, had seen service like a veteran, being one of the Green Mountain boys in the War of 1812. He bought a farm in Ohio and improved it. In 1853 he came to this State and settled in Woodbridge Township, Hillsdale County, on a farm of two hundred and

forty acres. Here he resided, working and improving the farm until August 24, 1862.

The mother of our subject was Mary, daughter of David Crawford. She was born in Rutland, Vt., and was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her father was a farmer who came to Summit County, Ohio, many years ago, and died in Portage County, the same State. Her mother's last days were spent in the same county, and she passed from earth in February, 1848.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Talmage, Ohio, in 1823, December 10 being his natal day. Here he spent his youth, helping to clear the land and improve the farm. When eighteen years old he apprenticed himself in a woolen manufacturing establishment at Middlebury. He was here eighteen months and began at coloring and worked his way up to the finer grades of work. Then he went to Monroe Falls, and after that to Chagrin Falls. Then he went to the factories in Akron, and remained until the year 1852, when he engaged in shipping coal to Cleveland. In 1853 he came to Michigan bringing his goods by team to Hillsdale County. He was accompanied by his brother with another team, and the balance of the family came by boat and rail.

Mr. Harrington bought a farm of forty acres in Woodbridge Township, which he proceeded to improve. He also purchased a threshing machine, but he did not remain here long. In the fall of 1864 he sold out his property and removed to Montcalm County. He was a great huntsman, and once killed a bear in Douglas Township. In 1865 he settled in Day Township, where he bought eighty acres of land, covered by pine and hardwood. There were no sawmills there, and very poor roads. He had to cut his way into the timber, and haul out the logs. After awhile he added eighty acres more of adjacent land, but has now disposed of all but forty-five acres, which border on Hemmenway Lake. When he settled here the Chippewa Indians were all about them.

Mr. Harrington has a fine farm, raising good grades of stock, and having all improvements and out-buildings in first-class condition. He makes a specialty also of bee culture. He has spent a good deal of time in the logging business, and has run

an engine at Weston. The wife of his youth was Miss Ellen Sickler, of Akron, Ohio. Their marriage took place in 1848, and she died while they were living in Hillsdale County, leaving three children: William; Edwin, who has since died; and Elmer B. His second wife, Rosetta Robb, was born in Pennsylvania, and died in Hillsdale County, August, 1865, only two years after their marriage. The present Mrs. Harrington was before her marriage with our subject, Mrs. Martha Duel. She was a daughter of Lloyd F. Smith, a native of Massachusetts, who came to New York when a boy. There he engaged in farming and coopering, and in 1855 came to Jackson, Mich., where he was employed in the cooper's trade. He resided in different towns in Michigan, and spent some time in Kansas and Arkansas. Of his nine children, the eldest was the wife of our subject. By her first marriage she was the mother of one child. Her second marriage gave her four children, all of whom are at home, except the eldest daughter, who is deceased.

The subject of this sketch has held many positions of trust in the community where he lives. He has long been Justice of the Peace, Highway Commissioner and School Trustee. He helped to build the first schoolhouse in the district. Since the present re-districting of the township, he has been Treasurer of the new district. He is a true blue Republican, and quite frequently serves his party as delegate to county and State conventions. He is the oldest remaining settler in Day Township, and is universally respected for his ability and character.



PAUL GALE. A traveler throughout Ionia County will see many beautiful farms, any one of which might be taken as an ideal rural home. Among those of Portland Township that of the gentleman above named is conspicuous for its commodious residence, accompanying outbuildings and orderly arrangement. The estate consists of one hundred and twenty acres which has been transformed into a beautiful tract by years of toil and careful oversight. The natural

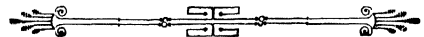
fertility of the soil has been retained by a proper rotation of crops and the use of such fertilizing agents and means of drainage as its situation and surface required.

Orange County, N. Y., claims Paul Gale as one of her sons, he having been born there July 19, 1829. He is a son of Samuel E. and Martha (Lockwood) Gale and his father was a farmer and a soldier of 1812. When he was nine years old our subject went to live with an elder brother, who was a farmer and merchant, owning three hundred acres of land and a store stocked with general merchandise. The lad was employed in the store in the capacity of a clerk until he was seventeen years old, when he went to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner. He worked at this handicraft fourteen years. In 1856 he came to this State to visit a sister and his first work here was for A. F. Morehouse. He subsequently formed a partnership with Joel Colby and put up a machine for cutting staves, which was the first of its kind in Portland. The firm carried on a cooper shop in which ten hands were employed and made about ten thousand barrels per year.

The connection continued about two years, when the sickness of Mr. Gale caused him to abandon the work, and he sold out to his partner, who continued the business for a number of years. For two years Mr. Gale clerked in Portland, but, his health continuing poor, he returned to his native State with a view to recruiting his strength. There he worked at his trade—carpentry—during the summer and at canalboat-building in the winter. At the expiration of a twelvemonth he had so improved in health that he returned to this State. He bought eighty acres adjoining a forty he already owned, and here he has remained, devoting his attention to the cultivation and improvement of his property, to the joys of domestic and social life, and the duties that devolve upon all good citizens.

In 1878 the present dwelling of Mr. Gale was erected, but the wife, partner of his joys and sorrows for so many years, was destined to preside over it but a short time. The year after its erection she was smitten by death's relentless hand, leaving her husband to bear his lot alone. Mrs.

Gale was a daughter of Joel Colby and became the wife of our subject in September, 1858. Their marriage was blest by the birth of three children: Della, wife of L. L. Smith, whose home is in the town of Portland; Hattie, wife of Asa Newman of the same place; and Chelsa, who died in childhood. Mr. Gale is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for a score of years he and his wife worshipped together in the church at Portland. Mrs. Gale was a member of the congregation and was as earnest a believer and faithful a disciple as her husband.



SAAC EMERSON THACHER, who is a well-known resident of Ionia, Ionia County, was born in North Wrentham, Mass., October 10, 1833, and comes of excellent parentage. It was characteristic of the dwellers in New England to make mental acquirements prominent, and even those who had but limited school privileges were well grounded in practical branches, and all were instructed in high principles of living and imbibed the love of liberty and justice with the air of their native hills and valleys. He of whom we write was given a good education prior to his seventeenth year, when he began his apprenticeship at his trade in Virgil, Cortland County, N. Y.

Mr. Thacher came to Michigan in 1855, but soon after went to Henry County, Ill., where he sojourned two and a half years. He then returned to Ionia and was married, October 2, 1860, to Miss Harriet Yeomans, daughter of Judge Erastus Yeomans, then a prominent resident of this county and now deceased. After his marriage Mr. Thacher turned his attention to farming and for five years carried on the farm of his father-in-law, and with that exception has given his attention to his trade. He is a man who has been true to every obligation in life, and earnest and faithful in religious work, being a member of the Presbyterian Church and a Deacon in the congregation since 1870. He votes the Republican ticket; he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is now Master Workman in that order. The

children born of the above union were four in number and were named respectively: Henrietta, Harland Erastus; Morris, who died in infancy; and Mary Myrtie. The first-born died in December, 1873; Harland is a machinist in the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad shops in Ionia, and Mary is at present engaged in teaching. Mrs. Thacher is also a member of the Presbyterian Church, as is also their daughter Mary.

The Thachers are a family of preachers, there not only being four in the direct line of ancestors of our subject, but others of the same name and nearly related being ministers as well. His early ancestor in America came to this country from Salisbury, England, and was the first pastor of the Old South Church, Boston. Peter Thacher, son of that gentleman, was also a minister and left nine children, the eldest of whom bore his father's name and followed the same calling. In the family of this second Peter Thacher was a son, Obadiah, whose natal day was July 31, 1757, and whose family has the following record: Elizabeth, born May 7, 1784; Peter June 21, 1785; Stephen Richardson, July 11, 1787; Thomas, December 31, 1789; Sarah Fisher (an adopted daughter) May 28, 1790; Moses, November 14, 1795; Hannah, July 31, 1799; Tyler, September 11, 1801; and Philena, August 30, 1803.

The birthplace of Moses Thacher, whose natal day is given above, was Princeton, Mass., but when he was eight years old his father removed to Pennsylvania. There, during a revival, he made a public profession of religion. Anxious to obtain a liberal education with a view to entering the ministry, in April, 1814, he left his father's house with his pack upon his back and traveled on foot three hundred miles to Providence, R. I., arriving there with only fifty cents in his pocket. He sought employment and found it at \$12 per month, and subsequently went to work in one of the factories of the place. At the same time he entered upon a preparatory course of study with the Rev. N. Holman, and finally entered Brown University, from which he was graduated in 1821.

With the Rev. Otis Thompson, of Rehoboth, R. I., Mr. Thacher studied theology, and in 1823 he was licensed to preach. The following year he

was ordained to the ministry and installed as pastor of the Congregational Church of North Wrentham, Mass., and the relation continued until 1832, when he became pastor of a new society organized there. Four years later he left New England for Pennsylvania, and in Susquehanna and Bradford he had charge of Presbyterian churches several years. Thence he went to New York and in that State he ministered to various churches until 1866, when he followed a son to Illinois. He organized a church at Munson, in Henry County, Ill., and supplied its pulpit two years, and this pastorate closed his active labors in the ministerial field.

The active work of the Rev. Mr. Thacher extended over a period of forty-six years and much of it was extremely laborious. His work was richly owned of God and many stars of rejoicing will be his on the last great day, when the verdict will be pronounced and the "well done" sound in the ears of the faithful Christians. While at North Wrentham, Mass., the Rev. Mr. Thacher edited a religious and anti-Masonic paper called the *Boston Telegraph*. He was an early anti-slavery man, and he was one of the twelve "good men and true"—the number including William Lloyd Garrison, Oliver Johnson and others—who on January 6, 1832, in the African schoolroom on "Nigger Hill" in the city of Boston, formed the New England Anti-Slavery Society. The first official address of the organization to the public was from the pen of Mr. Thacher, and it was pronounced by Mr. Johnson to be "a striking and powerful document." His home was one of the stations of the "underground railroad."

In August, 1868, the Rev. Mr. Thacher suffered a sunstroke, from the effects of which he never recovered, mentally or physically. The remainder of his life was spent peacefully and quietly, but his usefulness did not cease, his time being divided between his son in Illinois and his daughter in Ionia, Mich. He breathed his last in Cambridge, Ill., July 21, 1878. Of "Father" Thacher, as he was lovingly called in his later years, it may well be said, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; yea, for they rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

The year that saw him licensed to preach was

that during which the Rev. Mr. Thacher took a wife. On September 22, 1823, he was married to Miss Henrietta Willmarth, of Attleboro, Mass., and the happy wedded life extended over a period of forty-five years. The husband was called to part with his beloved companion in September, 1868. To them had been born five children, the youngest of whom is the subject of this biographical sketch and a worthy representative of the family name. The others were: Moses Willmarth, who died in Illinois November 3, 1882, while keeping an hotel, although he had formerly been a farmer; Stephen Richardson, an insurance agent now living in the State of Iowa; Martha, wife of N. E. Smith, and mentioned at length on another page of this volume. She died October 9, 1889. She was also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Thomas Henry is a resident of Lincoln, Neb.

We clip the following from an article published January 18, 1870, in one of the papers in Sacramento, Cal., on the occasion of the death of the Rev. Tyler Thacher December 4, 1869, by the Rev. I. E. Dwinell, D. D. In speaking of him he refers to him as one of the eminent clergymen of the State. We append the following in regard to his family history:

"Tyler Thacher was born in Princeton, Mass. September 11, 1801; graduated at Brown University in 1824, studied theology with the Rev. Otis Thompson, was licensed by the Mendon Association April 26, 1825, ordained as an Evangelist by the same association at North Wrentham December 4, 1827, installed pastor of the church in Hawley, Mass., May 14, 1834, as colleague with the Rev. Jonathan Grant, and was dismissed January 31, 1843. Subsequent to his dismissal he preached as a stated supply at North Wrentham.

"On the 20th of September, 1851, after a voyage of ten and a half months, he arrived with his family in California, where he has remained ever since, teaching a portion of the time and preaching to feeble churches or in neighborhoods where there were no churches. For the last six or eight years he has given his exclusive attention to the ministry.

"Such a mind as 'Father' Thacher's works mainly interiorly, and gives few of its results to the public. Yet during his long sea voyage he discovered 'a

new method of determining the longitude at sea without recourse to the chronometer," and at different times he published articles of great vigor on issues then occupying the attention of the religious world: as, 'Taylorism Examined,' 'Arminianism Examined,' 'Perfectionism Examined,' 'Christianity and Infidelity.'

In the 'History of Churches and Ministers in Franklin County, Mass.,' by the Rev. T. Packard, from which several of the preceding facts are derived, there are certain statements concerning the ministerial element in Mr. Thacher's ancestry, which I will transcribe as of great interest. "His paternal grandfather was the Rev. Peter Thacher, of East Attleboro,' who was the son of the Rev. Peter Thacher, of Middleboro,' who was the grandson of the Rev. Peter Thacher, of Milton, who was the great-grandson of the Rev. Thomas Thacher, of Boston, who was the great-great-grandson of the Rev. Peter Thacher, of Salisbury, England, and the last-named Peter Thacher's ancestors in England are said to have been ministers for nine or ten successive generations.' The Rev. T. Thacher leaves one brother, who is a minister, the Rev. Moses Thacher."



JACOB G. SUMMERS, an enterprising citizen of Sheridan, Montcalm County, is in his life an exemplification of the oft-repeated proverb that "there is no royal road to success," but it is also evident that in America poverty in boyhood is no bar to prosperity in maturer years. Our subject was born in Oakland County, Mich., on July 19, 1842. He is the son of William and Elizabeth (Young) Summers, both of New Jersey. Our subject resided at home with his father on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, having but scanty advantages for obtaining an education as the country schools of that day were very poor and he was never able to go away from home to school.

At twenty-one years of age Jacob G. Summers rented a farm and began for himself, remaining on that farm until seventeen years ago, when in the

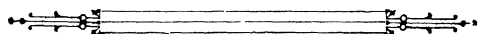


E R Berry

spring of 1874 he removed to Montcalm County and established himself in the village of Sheridan. He began speculating in lands. When the village was incorporated he was elected Street Commissioner; this was in 1876. From 1880 to 1884 he served as United States Deputy Marshal of this district under the appointment of Marshal James Monroe. About this time he was put forward for the office of County Sheriff and was elected by an overwhelming majority. Other candidates on the same ticket were elected by about one hundred majority, while this young man received thirteen hundred majority. He filled the office for two terms after which he would have been re-elected again, had it not been that the law forbids a third term in that office. He resided at Stanton during those four years.

After he returned to Sheridan, Mr. Summers began farming and milling. He has a handsome farm of eighty acres, just outside the limits of Sheridan, which is in a high state of cultivation and upon which he has an elegant farm house and commodious barns and outbuildings. He is the owner and operator of the Sheridan Roller Mills which have a capacity of sixty barrels per day. Some years ago he was himself an employe of this very mill, doing a common laborer's work.

The marriage of Jacob Summers, June 28, 1861, to Mary Hartum, daughter of William Hartum, of Oakland County, was an event of great interest to all the friends. To them have been born two children: S. Clay, born March 9, 1863; May, April 9, 1865. The son has been married to Edith Willit, of Montcalm County and the daughter is the wife of Lewis C. Welch, of Detroit. Our subject is a strong adherent of Republican principles, and belongs to the Masonic order; he is a member of Stanton Chapter, No. 110, R. A. M.



EDWIN R. BERRY. The portrait presented on the opposite page, will be recognized by many of our readers as that of a gentleman who is extensively engaged in raising horses and sheep, giving special attention to Clydesdale horses.

He has lived in Michigan since he was eleven years old, and for a number of years his interests have been in Ionia County. In 1882 he bought ninety acres of land on section 8, Otisco Township, where he is now pursuing the labors of life, surrounded by manifestations of good judgment and prosperity. He was born in Bradford County, Pa., January 26, 1839, but is descended from old New York and Vermont families.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were John and Elizabeth (Elliott) Berry, natives of Vermont and New York. His father was Joseph, who was born in New York, but in his early life went to Pennsylvania, and was married in Bradford County, February 8, 1838, to Caroline Galusha. In 1850 that couple came to this State and bought a fifty-acre farm, but sold it in a short time, buying instead one hundred and twenty acres in Eureka, and one hundred and sixty in Oakfield Township, Kent County. On the latter they made their permanent home. Notwithstanding his advanced years Mr. Berry entered the Union army, enlisting in 1864 in Company B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and died while in the service, December 1st of that year.

The wife of Joseph Berry was a daughter of Oliver and Abigail (Curtis) Galusha, natives of New York. They came to this State in 1865, and Mr. Galusha died in Kent County in 1873, and Mrs. Galusha in 1880. Their home was on a farm, agriculture being the lifework of the husband. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. To Joseph Berry and his wife the following children were born: Edwin R., Betsey, Harriet, John, Nancy, George and Charles. Harriet and Nancy now live in Belding; John and George are farmers in Kent County; Charles is night watchman in a silk mill in Belding; and Betsey is deceased.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce these paragraphs was a lad of eleven years when he accompanied his parents to this State, and he remained with them until he was of age. He then followed farming for a year, after which he laid aside the implements of his peaceful occupation, donned the army blue and went forth to battle for his country. He enlisted August 8, 1862, and was discharged June 25, 1865. As a member of Com-

pany B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, he did gallant service during the Atlanta campaign and elsewhere, among the prominent battles in which he fought being Kingston, Resaca, Nashville, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta and Altoona.

When Mr. Berry went to Southern battlefields he left behind him a young bride, formerly Miss Frances Tower. Their marriage rites were solemnized August 30, 1862, in Otisco Township. Mrs. Berry is a daughter of Joseph and Philura (Baldwin) Tower, natives of New York who came to Michigan at an early day and located in Oakland County. The widowed mother is now living in Belding and has reached a ripe old age, being in her seventy-ninth year. The father died in 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have two children, Lena and Joe, both at home. Joe, a youth of eighteen years, was graduated from the Belding High School in the Class of '91.

As would naturally be supposed Mr. Berry belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, his Post being Dan S. Root, No. 126. He is also a member of the Patrons of Industry, and belongs to Belding Lodge, No. 32, A. O. U. W. In politics he is an uncompromising Republican. He has been Highway Commissioner two years, and has done much in improving the facilities for travel.



DAVID E. COLEMAN, whose home farm is on section 29, Orange Township, Ionia County, is the son of Beckett Coleman, a woolen manufacturer and farmer, who was born in Connecticut about 1805, and of Harriet (Stratton) Coleman, born in 1817, in New York. The parents of our subject were married in New York State and resided there until 1837, when they removed to Huron County, Ohio, and in 1844 came to Michigan and settled on section 26, of Orange Township. This farm when taken from the Government was all raw land, and the settlers had plenty of neighbors of a certain kind—bears, wolves and deer, with Indians for variety.

Mr. Coleman and his two sons built a log house with puncheon floor, and cleared their eighty acres

of trees. They struggled successfully with the discouragements and trials of a pioneer life, and from their deep poverty have arisen to a comfortable competency and the possession of a pleasant home. Mr. Coleman lost his wife in 1859, and afterward married Phoebe (Stratten) Coulson, dying in 1875. His second wife lived until 1878. There were no children by the second marriage. The first Mrs. Coleman was the mother of Eli A., David E., Louisa, Mrs. Douglas; and Esther R., Mrs. John Wells, who are all living. George, William, Hiram J., Lucy and Ruth are deceased. Hiram J. enlisted in the Ninth Michigan Infantry, and after a year's service in the late war was taken prisoner and paroled. Returning home he went to Illinois and enlisted in the Sixth Illinois Cavalry. He was again taken prisoner and died in Andersonville. The parents of our subject were Free Will Baptists, and the father was a Republican for years before his death.

The subject of this notice was born October 7, 1829, in Jefferson County, N. Y., where he received a common-school education, and at fifteen years of age came to Michigan with his parents and helped his father on the farm until he reached his majority. He then began work for himself, but staid at home until after his mother's death. He first bought forty acres of raw land on section 26, but afterward purchased eighty acres on section 27, and traded off his original forty acres. He built a log house and began clearing off the land, and had about forty acres cleared at the time of his marriage. This important event took place December 23, 1860. His wife bore the maiden name of Philena N. Smith, and was a daughter of Ebenezer F. and Nancy (Merrifield) Smith, both of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had emigrated to Michigan in 1828, and were pioneers of Oakland County.

When the Smith family first came to Michigan they settled upon what appeared to be an abandoned sugar camp of the Indians. In the spring they were startled by finding themselves surrounded with the Indians, but they were able to compromise the matter and had no trouble with their savage neighbors. In 1844 they came to Ionia County, where they made their permanent

home. Mr. Smith was an officer in the Toledo War. He died in June, 1862, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife died in 1866, in her fifty-ninth year. They were the parents of eight children: Ebenezer F., Jr., and William T., deceased; George J.; Milam G.; Hannah J., deceased; Philena N., Mrs. Coleman; Ozem M.; and Mary E., Mrs. S. W. Rittenburgh. Three of these sons, Ebenezer F., Milam G. and Ozem M., were soldiers in the Civil War. Ebenezer F. served for nine months in the Ninth Michigan Infantry, and coming home sick died in 1862. The parents of these children were members of the Baptist Church, and they took an active part in church and Sunday-school.

Mrs. Coleman was born July 9, 1839, in Oakland County, Mich. After marriage she settled with her husband upon a farm on section 27, where they resided until 1887, when they removed to their present home. He had cleared off one hundred acres on the old farm, and now has forty acres of improved land on his new place. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman were the parents of two children: Eda, born June 21, 1869, is the wife of John A. Sullenger; they live with our subject and are the parents of three children—Emma I., Carrie and Orman. The second child, Archie, born October 7, 1874, died February 1, 1882. Mrs. Coleman is a member of the Free Will Baptist Church. Her husband takes an interest in politics and votes the Republican ticket, and is a member of the Patrons of Industry. Mr. Coleman has had excellent health and prosperity, except that in March, 1850, he broke his right thigh and was laid up for four months.



GEORGE F. CLARK is one of the most prominent young business men of Westville, Montcalm County. Although he has not long been a resident of the village he is thoroughly liked and admired by all, and on account of his official work in the post-office he is known by every one. He is an ardent Republican and will probably be a strong factor in local politics. He fills the position of Justice of the Peace and has a

fine farm of forty acres adjoining the village. Upon this farm is a handsome residence and excellent outbuildings. His father, Daniel Clark, was born in New York; his grandfather, Reuben was a soldier in the War of 1812, while his grandfather on his mother's side was an early settler in Livingston County, N. Y., and later of Allegany County, N. Y. He was a cooper and farmer and was the son of Thomas Bennett, who was the owner of the Housatonic bridge. This old-timer kept an hotel in Connecticut and entertained La Fayette and other Revolutionary heroes many a time. The family is of English descent. The mother of our subject remembers the Seneca Indians very well and could talk with them in their own language. She now resides with her son in Westville and is an earnest and efficient member of the Baptist Church.

The subject of this sketch is one of eleven children of the parental family; there were six girls and five boys. The girls were all teachers, having graduated at the High School. Alma taught thirty-three terms, and the record of the six daughters together counted up sixty seven terms. The daughters were by name Matilda, Emily, Alma, Maria, Adell and Helen. The five sons were Stephen, Arthur, Daniel, Henry and George. Our subject was born in Granger, Allegany County, N. Y., January 29, 1852, and had the common-school advantages. When he was twenty-one he took the home farm in partnership with his father, but the next year he went to Nebraska and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Saunders County, but he was not contented there and sold his farm at the first opportunity and going to Iowa located near Indian Creek and remained there for some time. Three years from the time he left home he returned, and again took charge of his father's farm, which he carried on until July, 1887. In the meantime his father had been called away from this life. He then came to Day Township, Montcalm County, and bought the farm and residence where he now lives and also some lots in the village of Westville. In the spring of 1889 he was elected Justice of the Peace and in December, 1890, took his position in the post-office. He is active and earnest in whatever he undertakes and

there are no half-way measures with him. Daniel O. Clark, brother of our subject, was a member of Company H, One hundred and Thirty-sixth New York Regiment, in the late war and served three years, until the close of the war, winning an honorable record as a soldier, and is now a farmer in Allegany County, N. Y.



CAPT. E. M. ALLEN is a gentleman of marked military talents of no mean order, and in the late Civil War he had an opportunity of developing this disposition. His family were of long standing and high renown and as we trace back their history we find them full of patriotism, struggling for the freedom of their country in the Revolutionary War. At successive periods they are always found loyal to their country. Their devoted ambition to home and native land as a matter of course, descended to the son, and we naturally find him acting with great singleness of purpose and zeal in his various positions as an officer in the Civil War.

Capt. Allen was the only son of Peter and Jane (Maynard) Allen and was born in Williamson, Wayne County, N. Y., November 18, 1840. The home of the father of Capt. Allen was during slavery days a depot for the underground railroad and when the Captain was a boy he carried fugitives to Pultneyville, a little port on Lake Ontario from which they sailed to Canada. His ancestors were from Dutchess County, where they were loyal and liberal supporters of the American cause in the Revolution. The paternal great-grandfather of Capt. Allen during the Revolution loaned the Government money to aid in sustaining it, which was never paid back to him, while his maternal grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812.

E. M. Allen was reared on a farm but was more anxious to secure an education than to do the drudgery of farm labor, hence took an active interest in his studies. At seventeen years of age he became a teacher in a district school in Ingham County, Mich., but after the first winter returned to New York, where he attended the Marion Colle-

giate Institute. He was here a pupil and teacher in all more than four years, alternating attendance with teaching to enable him to meet expenses. He was engaged in this school as teacher when the war broke out. While pursuing his studies in the Sophomore Class, at his country's call he bade good-bye to his school and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company I, Ninety-eighth New York Infantry. He served through the war and was discharged with the rank of Captain of the same company in which he enlisted.

At the organization of the company he was elected Second, then First Lieutenant and subsequently promoted to the Captaincy. He was with his company with McClellan in the Peninsular campaign and after this was ended was sent to North and South Carolina, where he served until 1864, when they were sent to the Department of the James. He marched with the Eighteenth Corps to meet Grant at Cold Harbor, and was engaged in the siege of Petersburg, participated in the fight at the mine and crossed the James with Butler to attack the defences on the north side of the river; was wounded in the charge upon and capture of Ft. Harrison. His was one of the very first regiments to enter Richmond and it was Adjutant J. K. R. Oakley of his regiment who first raised the Stars and Stripes over the State House in Virginia, and although history gives the honor elsewhere, the truth is, his regimental flag was taken down and replaced by another—after the order of Americus Vespucius' usurpation of the name of Columbia.

At the close of the war, like Cincinnatus, Capt. Allen returned to the plow and was engaged in farming when he was elected Superintendent of Schools for one half of Wayne County, N. Y., having charge of one hundred and four districts, a position which he held for six years. In 1874 he came to Portland, Mich., where in connection with Mr. Maynard he commenced the banking business under the firm name of Maynard & Allen, which business still continues.

While at home on a furlough, November 29, 1863, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Annie C., daughter of Robert and Electa Smith, of Williamson, Wayne County, N. Y. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children—Wini-

fred, now wife of A. V. Bell, of Seattle, Wash.; Gertrude and Clifton.

Capt. Allen is a Royal Arch Mason, of Portland Lodge, No. 32, and a member of John Megerrah Post, G. A. R. of which he has been Commander and in which he takes great interest. His wife and himself are members of the Methodist Church. Politically he is a staunch as well as active Republican. Nearly every campaign finds him on the "stump" in the interests of his party. He has always and uniformly refused office of any kind since coming to Michigan, and is of a jovial and hospitable nature. His estimable wife vies with her husband in making their home a pleasant place.

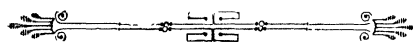


DAVID KILBORN, a farmer on section 27, Cato Township, Montcalm County, was born in Oxford County, Canada, May 17, 1826. He is a son of Whiting and Mary (Wood) Kilborn, both of whom were natives of Brockville, Canada. After marriage they took up their residence in Oxford County, Canada, where they both spent the remainder of their lives. They were lifelong members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and very active in church work. They had eight children, namely: Laura, Jared, Hannah, Mary, William, David, Jane and Wilbur.

The subject of this sketch was reared upon his father's farm in Canada, receiving a common-school education and spending his early manhood also upon a farm. For eight years prior to his coming to the States he was engaged in the mercantile business. In 1864 he came to Michigan and made his home where he now lives in Cato Township on eighty acres of land then all heavily timbered. Here he built him a log house and, bringing on his family made his home within its rude walls. This old home is still standing and sheltered the household until quite recently, when the present handsome two-story frame residence was erected. His farm is now one of the finest in the township. He has turned it over to his son Oscar who is managing it and the father is now living a retired life,

David Kilborn became connected with the church early in life and upon coming to Michigan he was impressed with the great need of religious instruction and Christian ministry in the new country. He began preaching and has, from that time to this, given constantly more or less of his time to the ministry as a local preacher. He is a man who enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men, and is well informed. His political convictions are with the Republican party.

In 1851 he chose as his partner in life, Lavania Bowers, of Waterloo County, Canada, who was born there May 3, 1832, a daughter of Samuel and Lydia (Sowers) Bowers. Their marriage took place May 21, 1851. Six children have been born to this union namely: Oscar, Frank, Julie, Elsie, Mary and Walton. Oscar farms the home farm; his wife was Miss Agnes Aldrich of this county, and she is the mother of four children—Ethel; Vernie, Fernie, twins; and Leon. Frank is a photographer in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He married Mary Carty of Lancaster, Ohio, and has one child, Ellen. Julie is the wife of George C. Youngman, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. Elsie is the wife of Augustus K. Varney a merchant tailor at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Mary is a photographer in Cedar Rapids, and Walton pursues the same business in Nevada, Iowa.



CHARLES W. JOSLIN is one of the business men of Smyrna, Ionia County, his occupation being that of a merchant. He carries a stock worth from \$3,000 to \$5,000, which includes the many articles that are classed under the head of general merchandise. His home is on section 21, Otisco Township, where he was born April 25, 1845. His father, John J. Joslin, had come this State from New York in the '30s, and had made his home in Macomb County. Thence he removed to Oakland County and later to Ionia County, where he permanently remained. In Macomb County he was married to Betsey M. Wales, a daughter of Solomon and Urania (Wright) Wales. Her parents, natives of Vermont, came to this State in 1820,

and she herself is believed to be the oldest continuous resident of the commonwealth. Mr. Joslin entered into rest in 1886 mourned by six children—Blin D., Americ M., John T., Martha U., Charles W. and George S.

The gentleman who is the subject of this brief life history, had no unusual experiences in his boyhood and youth, save that at the age of seventeen he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed during the winter season six or seven years. When twenty-one years old he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked about a decade. From that time until 1881 he was variously occupied, and he then entered upon his successful career as a merchant. In connection with that business he does considerable as an apple-dryer.

At the head of the pleasant home in which Mr. Joslin finds rest from his business cares, is the wife to whom he was married in 1871. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Adelaide Campbell, and is a daughter of Henry M. and Anna (Smith) Campbell, natives of Massachusetts. A bright group clusters around the fireside, being made up of the following sons and daughters: Blanche, Cora, George, Frank, Marion, Jim and Elva.

Mr. Joslin has never aspired to public office, but is a faithful adherent of the Republican party, to which he gives the full weight of his influence. He is one of the originators of Smyrna Temperance Lodge No. 1, and fills the chair of President. In carrying on his business he displays good judgment and an honorable consideration for the rights of others, and all who deal with him are assured of courteous treatment.



HON. SANFORD A. YEOMANS. The name of Sanford Yeomans is well known to the citizens of Ionia County as that of one of its earliest pioneers, as well as a man of prominence in various relations of life. His many friends will be pleased to read this account of his life, even though time and space forbid a more detailed recital of his experiences and labors. He is now President of the First National Bank of

Ionia and is one of the large landowners of the county, his home farm being in Easton Township. It consists of four hundred and fifty acres, well developed and well improved, and other tracts add many acres to his landed estate. His stock in the aforesaid bank is rated at \$12,700 and he has \$2,000 in the Fifth National Bank at Grand Rapids. The influence that comes from abundant means belongs to Mr. Yeomans, and coupled with it is that stronger power exerted by mind and character.

The parents of the Hon. Mr. Yeomans were Erastus and Phebe (Arnold) Yeomans, natives of Connecticut and Rhode Island respectively, and the mother a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. The father fought in the War of 1812 and became a pensioner of the Government on account of his services. The parental home was in Herkimer County, N. Y., where our subject was born November 29, 1816, and there they continued to reside until the child had reached his seventeenth year. They then, in the spring of 1833, made a removal to Ionia County and located in Easton Township on section 24. They were practically in the woods, although the old homestead where his father settled is now included in the corporate limits of Ionia. Erastus Yeomans was the first Postmaster of this place, was County Superintendent of the Poor and Associate County Judge. He occupied his original estate here until his decease in 1883, at the age of nearly ninety-two years. The venerable man was a well-known figure in the city and was valued as one of the best of citizens and the most useful of the old pioneers.

As the eldest son in the parental family Sanford Yeomans necessarily bore an active part in improving the homestead, and early in life developed a strength of character and vigor of body that seems to have been characteristic of the members of the pioneer families. His education was well advanced in the district schools of his native State, and was added to after coming West whenever opportunity offered. As the curriculum of that day was not extended, he is self-educated in many branches. He made his home under the parental roof until he was twenty-four years old, when he started out to enter upon his personal career. In 1840 he settled

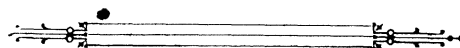
upon his present farm, which was partially timber and partly level plain, and was in the primitive condition of a country whose only inhabitants had been Indians.

Mr. Yeomans first put up a small frame house, which he occupied a number of years but which was finally replaced by a more ample and commodious residence. He developed the farm and added to the forty acres which had been given him by his father until he brought the home place up to its present acreage. Among the other tracts now owned by him is a part of his father's homestead.

In January, 1841, Mr. Yeomans was married to Miss Abigail Thompson, a native of Vermont, who shared his fortunes until 1848, when she closed her eyes in death. To the union there came four children, three of whom are living—Erastus, Olive and Walter. The daughter is now the wife of William J. Just. Mr. Yeomans won for his second wife Miss Marietta A. Stebbins, who was born in Franklin County, Mass., March 6, 1829, and is a daughter of Chancey M. and Sophia Stebbins. She accompanied her parents to Ionia County in 1836, and is therefore nearly as well acquainted with the pioneer history of the county as her husband. Her surviving brothers and sisters are: Seymour M.; George and Albert, living in Easton Township; Armanella, wife of Hiram Moss, in Clinton County; Chester, in Montcalm County; and Julia, wife of Andrew Ross, in Easton Township. By his second marriage Mr. Yeomans became the father of seven children, three of whom are living, their names being Willard S., Frank H. and Edwin.

Like his father before him Mr. Yeomans is a staunch Republican and a man of undeniable public spirit. For twenty years he has served as County Superintendent of the Poor and he has been Clerk of Easton Township for many years. He served two terms in the Lower House of the Michigan Legislature, the one in 1877 and the other in 1879. In 1867 he was a delegate to the Michigan State Constitutional Convention, representing the west half of Ionia County. In the archives of the State may be found his legislative record and in the memory of his constituents it is also engraved. That Mr. Yeomans possesses more than ordinary financial ability is attested by his broad acres and

other evidences of wealth. That he is well versed on general topics and is thoughtful in his consideration of the issues of the day is soon learned in conversation with him. The hospitality of himself and wife is almost unbounded, and the confidence and esteem in which they are held testify to their excellent characters.



GEORGE I. STRACHAN is a prosperous farmer residing on section 24, Ronald Township, Ionia County. He was born in North Plains Township in this county, February 20, 1860. His father, James, was a native of Ireland, where he was born in 1820. He came to Canada at the age of eighteen years, is one of a family of twelve children, and received his schooling in the old country. After he came to Canada he served five years and six months in the British army. After his discharge from the army he came to the United States.

In 1849 the father of our subject took to himself a wife in the person of Mary Delzell, a native of the Emerald Isle. Their marriage took place in Wayne County, N. Y., but in 1855 they came to Michigan and located in North Plains Township, on an unimproved farm. Their log house was minus doors and windows, but it was not minus the happy home spirit. They made their home there until 1883, improving not only the house but the farm. They then came to Ronald Township. Mrs. James Strachan was called away from earth in January 25, 1890. The father of our subject still resides with him and is a prominent citizen of the township. He has been Highway Commissioner and Pathmaster of the township. He is a Republican in politics, and with his son enjoys the communion of the Christian Church. A strong bond of union exists between the father and the youngest son of the family.

October 12, 1881 saw the happy marriage of George I. Strachan and Leona Allen. This lady was born in Pennsylvania, August 4, 1860, and came with her parents to Michigan when a little child of five years. The first home of this young

couple was in North Plains Township, but the following year they removed to their present residence, on the farm which is owned by the father. One little son has blessed their home, J. Lee.

General farming and stock-raising occupy our subject, his specialty being a fine grade of hogs. He began buying graded hogs in 1885, and each year has increased his stock from the best sources. He makes a specialty of breeding and shipping, and takes first premium almost every fall at the fair. He has taken more money in this way at the fairs than any one else in the business in the county. Of his one hundred and forty acres of land, one hundred and ten are in cultivation, and the rest in timber. He has filled positions of trust in the township, having been Highway Commissioner and Drainage Commissioner. For four years past he has been a Trustee in the Union Church.



CASS T. WRIGHT, of the firm of F. N. Wright & Co., Greenville, Montcalm County, is one of the most influential business men of the place. The firm of which he is a member deals in iron and steel plows, undressed lumber, lath, shingles, and all kinds of dressed lumber. They are also engaged in buying and selling pine lands, and altogether are carrying on an extensive business. They bought the Greenville Plow Works in 1890, and employ a number of hands in the manufacture of plows, and they are also making brick and flour, in the milling business being engaged with the Wright Bros. The mill was built in 1881, is fitted up with a first-class roller system, and has a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels per day.

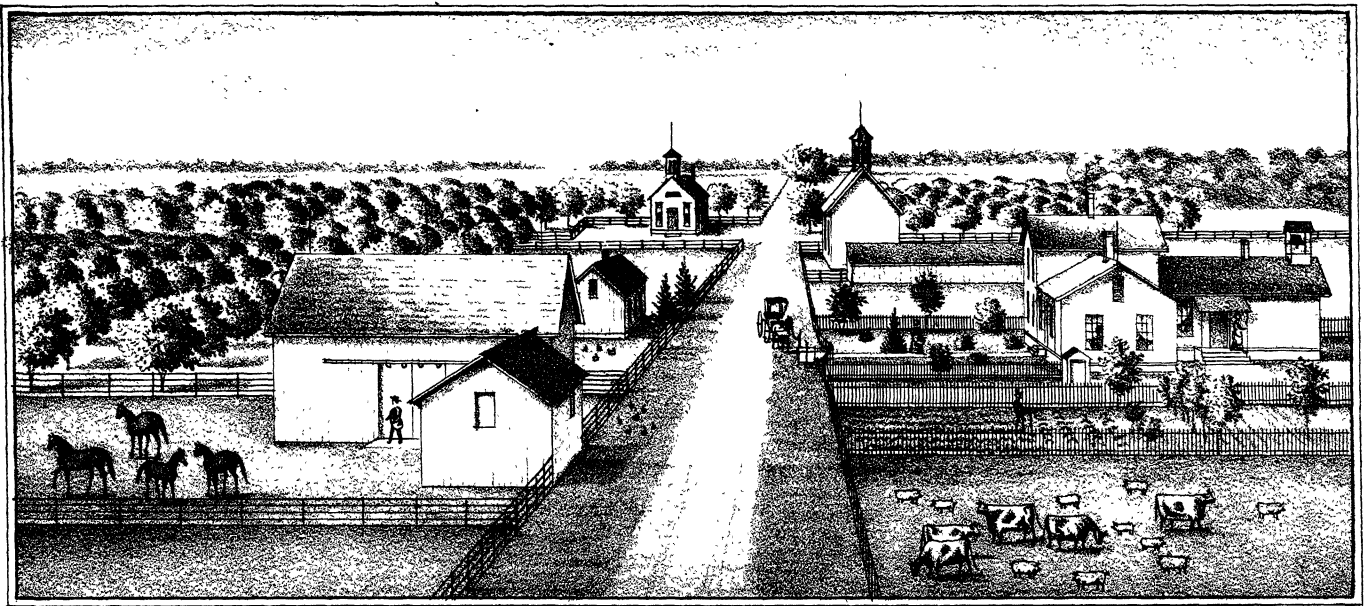
Mr. Wright is a native of Brown County, Wis., and a son of Lucien B. and Marryette (Thompson) Wright, both of whom were born in Lake County, Ohio. The father had been engaged in the lumber trade, and moving to Wisconsin in 1833 he continued that occupation and also engaged in farming. In 1866 he came to Greenville, and here he carried on the sale of lumber until his death, two years after his removal. He was an active member

of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his widow who still lives in Greenville, is a worker in the same denomination. Mr. Wright was a Democrat in his younger days, but in the beginning of the war he joined the Republican ranks. In Wisconsin he held the position of County Clerk, and served in township offices also. The parental family, numbering nine children, is now represented by Cass T.; Annie, wife of O. W. Green; Lucien H., Edwin R.; and Ida, wife of C. J. Abbott.

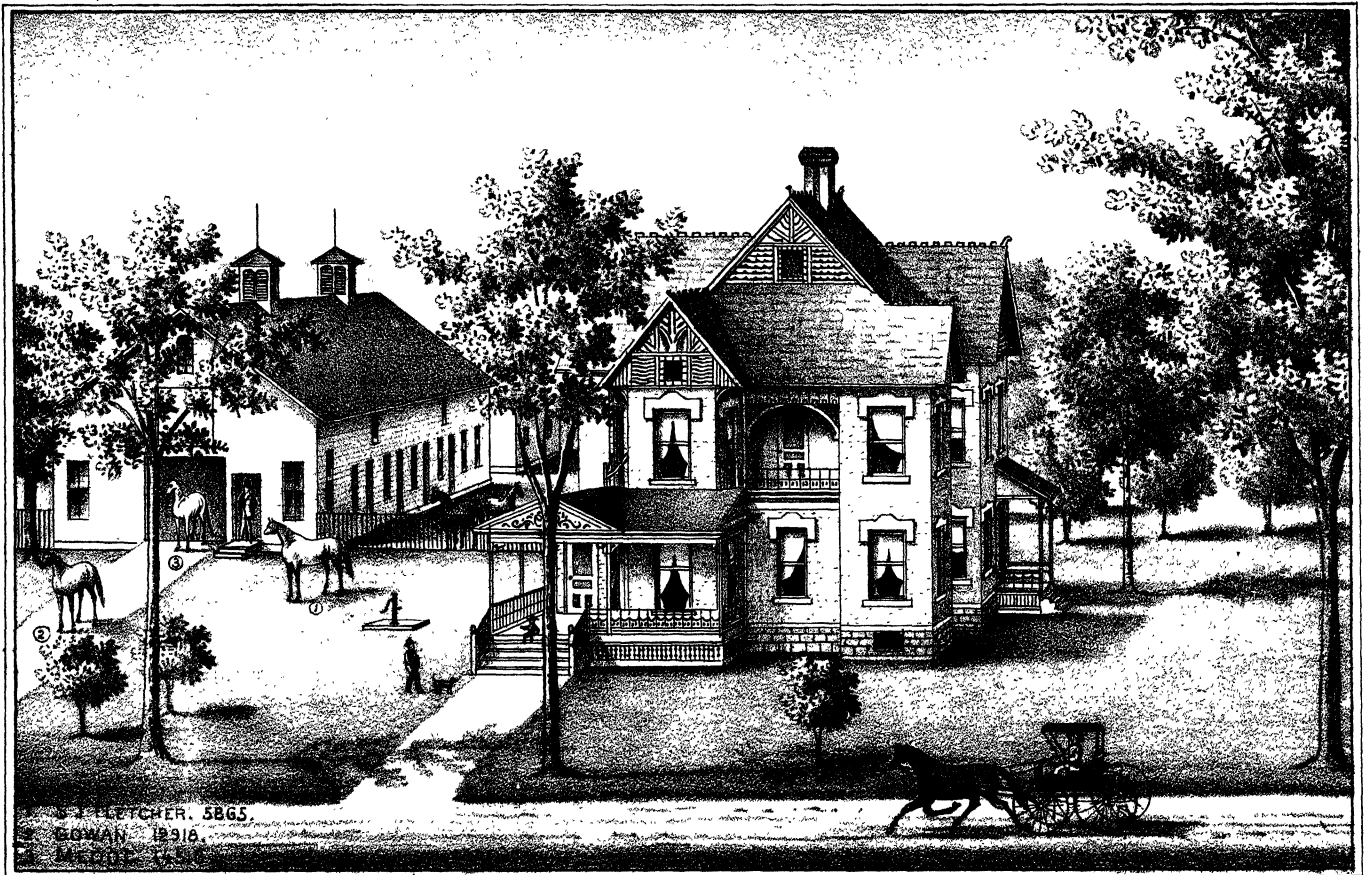
The paternal grandparents of our subject were Hoel and Aurilla (Cleveland) Wright, who were natives of Vermont and who died in Wisconsin in 1876 and 1886 respectively. Grandfather Wright went to Ohio in an early day, and in 1833 came to Brown County, Wis. He was a surveyor, but after he went to Wisconsin he added lumbering to his professional work. In 1866 he came to Greenville, which was his home four years, and he then returned to Wisconsin and located in Winnebago County. He had a family of eighteen children. His parents were Samuel and Rebecca Wright, who were born in Vermont and spent their last years in Brown County, Wis., whither they went about 1836-37. Their children were six in number.

The subject of this biographical notice opened his eyes to the light June 30, 1846. He was nearly of age when he came to Greenville, and the years prior to that time were spent on the home farm and in pursuing practical studies which fitted him for business life and usefulness. After his parents came to this State he learned something of the business in which he is now engaged, and at the death of his father he went into the establishment with his uncle, F. N. Wright. In addition to the extensive enterprises before mentioned in which the firm of F. N. Wright & Co. is interested, our subject is a shareholder in the starch factory of Greenville, which is the only establishment of its kind in the United States. Its capacity is two thousand bushels per twenty-four hours, and forty hands are employed. Mr. Wright established the electric light system in Greenville in 1888. He has thirty arc lights and two hundred and fifty incandescent lights in the city.

The wife who presides with gracious dignity in the residence of Mr. Wright was known in her



RESIDENCE OF LEWIS N. BENEDICT, SEC'S. 22 & 23. ORANGE TP. IONIA CO. MICH.



RESIDENCE OF CASS T. WRIGHT, GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN.

maidenhood as Miss Helen Fuller. She is an educated, refined lady, whose former home was Middleville, Barry County, where she was married in 1868. She is the mother of six children, named respectively, Lucien W., Ethel, Jess, Fairchilds N., Earl and Hugh. Mr. Wright has made a study of political questions, and keeps himself well informed regarding the issues that are before the people from year to year. He casts his vote with the Republicans. He was at one time the occupant of the Mayor's chair, and did good work in his official capacity, but his wide business interests prevent his taking any great part in public affairs, except in so far as his duty as a citizen lies. His reputation as a financier and the manager of extensive interests has spread over the country, and in business circles his name is prominent.

One of the most attractive homes in Greenville is that of Mr. Wright, and we are pleased to present to his friends and acquaintances a view of his elegant residence. Mr. Wright also has about as fine a stock farm as is to be found in Michigan, with a substantial stock barn, and about thirty-five head of the finest strains of Hambletonian and Wilkes registered horses in this State.



LEWIS N. BENEDICT. One of the most attractive locations in Ionia County is occupied by the farm of the gentleman above named. The mistaken townsman who believes that country life is devoid of attraction will find conclusive proof to the contrary on this estate, which is beautiful to behold, the source of a fine income, and the scene of a happy home life. A view of this pleasant homestead appears on another page. It bears every mark of careful and intelligent tillage, is divided into convenient fields by good fencing and is supplied with a full set of farm buildings.

Mr. Benedict is the son of Hiram Benedict, a New York farmer, and Anna (Hungerford) Benedict, a native of the same State. There they were married and always afterward resided. Hiram

Benedict was born March 24, 1797, and died March 29, 1876. His wife was born April 13, 1806, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of six children, who grew to maturity and all but one are now living. Our subject was born March 10, 1827, in Oswego County, N. Y. When nineteen years of age he went to Jefferson County and served three years as apprentice to the trade of carpenter and joiner. In that apprenticeship he received in cash the first year \$4 per month; the next year \$6, and the third year \$10. Afterwards as journeyman he was paid \$1 per day. He worked there until 1865 when he came to Michigan and settled at Ionia, continuing to work at his trade. In 1852 he married Pamela Chase, of Watertown, N. Y., and they were the parents of two children—Ella, the wife of J. W. Bandfield, who lives at Orange Township with her husband and two children; William F. has married Carrie Nickerson and lives in Ionia Township—he has two children; The subject of this sketch lost his wife November 17, 1882.

Mr. Benedict married for his second wife Adeline (Barrett) Hall, widow of A. K. Hall. Her father was a Connecticut farmer and her mother, Dalmatia (Crosby) Barrett, was a native of Vermont, and they were married in Volney, Oswego County, N. Y. Mr. Barrett died in 1827, when only twenty-five years of age. His widow in her second marriage was united with David Hall and resided for several years in New York until 1840, when they came to Michigan and settled on a raw farm in Montcalm.

Their first home was in an old sugar shanty until they built a log house. They were surrounded by Indians and wild animals. David Hall died in 1872 and his wife in November, 1882, at the age of seventy-seven years. Mrs. Benedict was the only child of the first marriage. By the second marriage there were six children, three of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Barrett were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, taking an active part in church matters and giving special assistance in the line of music.

Mrs. Benedict was born January 15, 1828, in Oswego County, N. Y.; she left home when eleven years old and came to Michigan when thirteen years of age. She received a good district school

education, and worthily fills her sphere in life. February 5, 1843, she married Alexander K. Hall, son of Daniel and Jerusha (King) Hall of New York. They early settled near Oswego where they died upon their farm. They were the parents of eight children. Alexander Hall was born in May, 1815, and in 1838 came to Michigan and settled upon a raw farm of eighty acres, which he cleared and embellished with all its present improvements. During his early settlement here bears, wolves, deer and other wild animals abounded, while Indians were numerous. At one time Mr. Hall learned there was a letter for him in the post-office at Portland. He put a bushel of wheat in a sack and carried it on his shoulder to that village expecting to sell it, but when he arrived there, a distance of six miles, he could not sell it for enough to pay the postage on the letter which was twenty-five cents. Fortunately an acquaintance there took the wheat and gave him twenty-five cents with which he got his letter out of the office.

After a busy and useful life, Mr. Hall passed from the busy scenes of earth in August, 1878. His funeral services were the first held in the Methodist Episcopal Church known as the Hall Church, of which he was Trustee, and to which he had given an acre of land. He and his wife were the parents of five children, as follows: Daniel A., who married Martha Zacharius, lives in Orange Township, with his wife and seven children; Jerusha, Mrs. Hazel Bartlett died, leaving a family of two children; Lydia L., Mrs. William Miner, lives in Orange Township and has three children; Charles O., who married Belle Decker, lives in Eaton Rapids and has two children; Alice I. is the wife of William Welman and lives on the home farm.

A. K. Hall was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in every way was a substantial Christian character. He was strictly temperate in his habits, and in all these good qualities his children follow in their father's footsteps. He was at various times School Inspector, Justice of the Peace, Road Overseer, Road Commissioner, and for five years Supervisor of Orange Township, being the first one after the organization of the township. He kept himself fully informed in regard to the political situation and on national matters voted

the Democratic, but in local elections he always voted for the best men.

Mr. and Mrs. Benedict are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been a Steward; he has been chorister for many years, and for about forty years has served as Class-Leader. Both have taken an active part in the Sunday-school in which Mrs. Benedict is a teacher and he for a long time has been both Superintendent and teacher. He made his public profession of Christianity in 1842. He is temperate and while he votes the Republican ticket in general elections casts a Prohibition vote when opportunity allows. He has been a member of the Sons of Temperance and also of the Union League, and is now a member of the Patrons of Industry. They carry on mixed farming, raising grain and stock, and are very successful in raising houseplants for the adornment of their home.



VOLNEY C. VAN LIEW, M. D., is a prominent physician and a prosperous druggist in the northeastern part of Montcalm County. He has a large practice in Richland and other townships, is exceedingly successful in his profession and a very popular man as a friend and neighbor. He is descended from an old and well-known family of New York State, who were pioneers in Kent County, Mich., settling near Cortland Center.

The parents of our subject, Cornelius and Lucy (Smith) Van Liew, began life together in their native State, New York, and coming to Michigan bought a farm which they proceeded to improve, but the happy family life was soon interrupted, for in 1862 Cornelius enlisted in Company F, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. He was captured at Brandy Station and sent to Libby prison. Thence he was transferred to Belle Isle and from there to Andersonville, where he died after a terrible imprisonment of eleven months. This brave man enlisted as a private and when captured had been promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant. He was a highly intelligent man, a strong Abolitionist

and an ardent Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he had long been Class-Leader, and a valued and honored member of society.

The widowed mother of our subject faithfully reared the children whose training now devolved upon her alone, and brought up to manhood and womanhood, not only her own five little ones, but also two children of her husband by a previous marriage. Later in life she married Mr. Nickerson. She died in Nelson Township, Kent County, in 1885.

Young Volney was born in Oakfield Township, Kent County, March 31, 1858; was reared in Cortland until he was ten years of age when the family removed to Sand Lake. When only eleven years old he began to work out during the summers in a shingle factory. When eighteen years of age he had worked his way up and was a shingle sawyer. His winters were spent in study. After completing his course at the district schools he attended the High School at Rockford and then went to Battle Creek College for three years. After teaching one year he made an engagement as clerk in a store and at the same time studied medicine at Ravenna under Henry Hull, a prominent physician there. After remaining with him one year he entered the old Detroit Medical College in the fall of 1880. After his one year of study here the young man began practice at Croton, Muskegon County, where he remained for three years. Feeling, however, that his course of study had not been sufficient to enable him to achieve success in the profession he entered the Michigan Medical College at Detroit, in the fall of 1883, and the following spring received the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

The young Doctor located at Newaygo for one year and then removed to Coral in this county, where he practiced until 1886, after which he removed to Vestaburgh, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice, and where he soon started in the drug business. His success is due to thorough preparation, hard work, close application and devotion to duty.

The happy home life of our subject and the comforts of his home have aided largely in sustaining him in the arduous labors of his profession. Mrs. Van Liew bore the maiden name of Nettie Routson,

She was born in Ohio and was educated at Muskegon, completing her schooling in the High School there, and was for four years a teacher, previous to her marriage in 1882.

Dr. Van Liew is filling the position of Health Officer in his town, and in the Knights of the Maccabees to which he belongs he is the official physician, and examining physician for several insurance companies. He is a member of the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Society. In his political affiliations he marches with the Republican party and has often been made a delegate to county and other conventions.



MARTIN J. MINER. This enterprising citizen of Montcalm County is one whose life affords an example of that which may be accomplished by a man of determined spirit, good habits and persistence. He began his career in life as a poor man, and has acquired a good property, consisting of a fine farm in Bloomer Township, and has business interests in Carson City that have been potent in the upbuilding of that place. His farm consists of two hundred and forty acres of fine land, under careful and intelligent cultivation, and well-stocked with domestic animals and farm machinery. The barn is of more than average value, and the house is attractive in design, convenient in arrangement, and well furnished. Mr. Miner keeps good horses, but cares little for stock-raising, although the animals he has are of good breeds and well cared for.

In the village of Natural Bridge in Jefferson County, N. Y., Mr. Miller was born March 18, 1830. His parents were Anderson and Delilah (Armstrong) Miner, both of whom were born in Norwich, Vt. The father was a blacksmith and the son learned the trade, working for his father until he was of age, and afterward giving eight or ten years to similar work for his own advantage. He had but meager school privileges, as the benefit of the summer terms was not his, and the education he obtained was limited to a fair knowledge of the common branches. By the means that are open

to all who desire information, he has added to his store of learning, and is now a well-informed man.

In 1844 the father of our subject came to this State and located in Palmyra, Lenawee County. Thence he went to Liberty, Jackson County, and after sojourning there about three years, he settled in Montcalm County, December, 1851. In 1852 he gave every man a dinner in the town of Bloomer one town meeting day, and the ballot box was Mother Miner's knife box. He was one of the earliest to establish a home in this section, and he was seventeen days in cutting trees to open up a road to the farm now operated by the son. Clearing was begun, and a blacksmith shop was opened, and as time passed the property became valuable and pleasant to behold. The father died in 1879. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and his father in turn fought in the Revolution. A sister of our subject taught the first school in Carson City.

The marriage of Mr. Miner and Lucinda Hawley solemnized at the bride's home in Ionia County, August 23, 1852. Mrs. Miner is a daughter of Alpheus Hawley, whose name will be recognized by many of our readers. There came to brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miner, two children: George H., born November 28, 1854; and Lucena A., born August 11, 1856. Both are happily married and living in homes of their own in Montcalm County. George married Nettie Yates; and Lucena is the wife of Theodore Freshouer.

In the year 1878 Mr. Miner erected a large brick building now occupied by the State Bank of Carson City. The previous spring he and others had united in building the east side elevator, and he had the active management of it until the last year, when it became his personal property. He and Mr. Webber owned and platted the forty acres between the business part of the town and the elevators, and put it on the market. Mr. Miner was also connected with the Savings Bank of Carson City, the business of which the stockholders are now closing out, and he was Vice-President of the corporation all the time. Notwithstanding these interests he did not neglect his farm, but improved the land and put up the buildings that stamp it as the home of a man of good judgment.

In looking back over the years he has spent in

this State, Mr. Miner speaks of a time in 1854 when he and his family lived eight days without bread, and when starvation stared them in the face on more than one occasion. He and his wife have survived their trials and discomforts, and are now enjoying the fruits of their honest industry and the many comforts that make farm life so pleasant in well-settled districts. Mrs. Miner is interested in curiosities and has the space over the windows in her home adorned with various articles, and has a table composed of curiosities of all possible kinds, rising in pyramidal form in the center.



CHARLES MILLARD, for half a century a resident in Ionia County, has been making his home in the county-seat since October, 1889. Some years before he was obliged to give up farming, which had been his life work, on account of his wife being crippled by an accidental fall and he removed to Pewamo, where he lived from 1877 to the year above mentioned. He was born in Berkshire County, Mass., March 13, 1819, and comes of old Puritan stock. The Millard family was established in this country by two brothers, Robert and Nathaniel, who came from England about the middle of the seventeenth century, having been driven from their home by persecution, they being Baptists. The parents of our subject were Doctor and Alvira (Atwood) Millard, who were born in Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively. The given name of the father was occasioned by his being the seventh son of his parents.

Our subject was eight years old when his father removed to Yates County, N. Y., and there he remained with his parents until he was twenty years old. He then established his own home, being married January 9, 1839, to Catherine, daughter of Ira and Margaret (Thompson) Fisher, natives of the Empire State, and the father a shoemaker. In the fall of 1840 Mr. and Mrs. Millard came to this State, making their memorable trip from Detroit with an ox-team. They stopped in Clinton County, but before a year had passed they came to Lyons Township, Ionia County, and bought a tract

of land near the present site of Pewamo. The situation of affairs at that time is best told by Mrs. Millard herself.

"All the country east of this place was an unbroken wilderness, the only inhabitants roving bands of Indians and wild animals. St. John's, Fowler and Pewamo were not even thought of. There were few settlers on and around East Plain, but north of Maple River but two white men had located land and were clearing up farms as homes for themselves and families. Nathaniel Sessions lived one mile west of where Matherton now lives, which was then only an Indian planting ground, and Mr. Tabor lived one mile north on the road now leading to Hubbardston. One other man named Glass had ventured farther north, but previous to 1840 the family were murdered and the house burned. The act was attributed to the Indians who stoutly denied the accusation, yet the white settlers became greatly alarmed and held a meeting to fix upon some plan of defense in the event of any further disturbance. A site for a fort was selected on the highlands this side of Lyons, the intention being to provide a place to which they could remove their families if danger threatened. But as the Indians remained friendly the fort was never built and subsequent events gave rise to the suspicion that Mr. Glass had murdered his wife and children, burned the house to hide the crime and then fled the country.

"At that time and for many years after, merchandise and provisions not raised on the ground were brought from Detroit to Lyons with teams, requiring about four days each way if horse teams were used and if oxen much longer. Some enterprising persons at last placed a small steamboat on Grand River, which ran up as far as Lyons and greatly facilitated transportation. Many a load of wheat was drawn to Lyons with ox-teams and sold for three shillings and sixpence per bushel, half cash and the balance in store trade, \$1.50 per pound being the price of tea, twenty-five cents per yard the cheapest calico and other goods in proportion. Letter postage was twenty-five cents and could not be prepaid and it may well be supposed that in their isolation from friends the settlers carefully hoarded their twenty-five cent pieces so that they might get

the precious news from the old home. It was rarely that a man could get cash for work and if he did it was but fifty cents."

Mrs. Millard is almost always called upon in gatherings of the old settlers to read an essay or recite some old-time experience, and from her pen comes the following. After stating that no whites in this vicinity were ever known to have been killed by the Indians and speaking of the drunken son of a chief who was soundly flogged by his father for firing at a white man, she goes on to say: "I assure you it did make the blood quicken in our veins and the heart beat a little faster to hear the latch slyly lifted and see, sometimes, a dozen or more stalwart Indians file into the room—husband out in the woods chopping and wife and child alone. However, we soon got used to such visits and spent many an hour talking as best we could with the squaws, telling them the names of articles about the room and learning what they called the same. In this way we learned to converse and trade with them, and after a time all fear of our dusky friends left us and we felt not quite so lonely when their camps were near. This was often the case, especially during the sugar-making season. In this work they were extremely filthy, as they were in everything. We have been in the sugar camps on a bright, sunshiny day, have seen long troughs holding several barrels filled with maple sap and perhaps half a dozen nude papposes paddling about therein, ducking themselves and having a grand time. The same sap was afterward boiled into 'sinbouquet' and sold to white settlers, but I was not among the purchasers. They would also throw meat or corn into the boiling syrup, skimming it out when cooked, while the process of reducing the liquid to sugar still went on.

"They seldom offered any other article of food for trade but it was generally baskets or bits of "puckawaon" (calico) left of the squaws' short gowns, or tobacco, but never their ornaments of which they were extremely fond. The squaws sometimes wore ten or a dozen strings of beads about their necks, with silver brooches from the size of a twenty-five cent piece to that of a small tea saucer. I have seen their upper dress, or short gown, literally covered with these silver ornaments

and the fine work on their leggins would shame the most proficient builder of crazy work in these days. But very rarely during the early years could such articles be bought of them.

"In the summer of 1841 it was thought best to hold a celebration on the 4th of July, for you see we had lost none of our patriotism by coming to a new country. There was no hall in which to spread a repast and no modern appliances to make beautiful the surroundings, but nature provided the garniture. The spot selected was literally a garden of beautiful flowers, as all the plain lands were before disturbed by the plow. We must needs have a flag or our patriotism would lack the proper stimulus. We were too poor to buy and there was none at hand. So, taking some strips of blue calico, red flannel and white sheeting I manufactured a flag that at an altitude of about sixty feet was quite presentable although, I remember, the orator, Mr. Libhart, referred to it as quite a common affair. Still it was the stars and stripes, semblance of the dear old flag. After the oration all sat down to a free dinner. About one hundred Indians had come to join in the festivities, in their best gala dress, the squaws ablaze in beads and silver brooches and the Indians resplendent with feathers, tiny bells and bright colors. They were served with dinner the same as ourselves, and so ended the first national celebration in this section of county and, I think, the first in the township outside the village of Lyons.

"In 1842 there was a scarcity of bread stuffs, the great influx of settlers having created a demand far beyond the supply, and before harvest we lived for three days on nothing but a few half-grown flat turnips with a cup of tea, and many other fared as badly; but ere long there was an abundance to live upon, and as the resources of the country were developed there was plenty for all. Yet we missed the privileges of the more thickly settled States and when, after about twenty years, we learned that we were to be united to the outer world by iron rail, there was gladness among the people. We well remember the first excursion given by the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad. Flat cars were used on which boards were arranged for seats, but no happier party ever took their first ride

on the cars than enjoyed that day's excursion."

Mr. and Mrs. Millard are consistent members of the Baptist Church and are interested in the Odd Fellows fraternity, Mr. Millard having taken all the degrees and his wife belonging to the Rebecca lodge. He is a firm supporter of the Republican party. The record of their family is as follows: Fidelia E., born February 20, 1841, is now the wife of Henry J. Sturtevant; Alvira M., born June 27, 1843, wife of John Dickson; Charles Leroy, born March 9, 1851, now a resident of Texas; Lucy V., born October 23, 1853, died April 15, 1865, at the age of twelve years; Ira D., born November 9, 1855, died May 9, 1857.



DAVID GATES is the son of Harry P. Gates, a native of Madison County, N. Y., born in 1813, and a grandson of Zephaniah Gates, a native of Connecticut, born in 1769. The grandfather was deeply interested in the War of 1812, and raised a company for the contest to which he was chosen Captain, but finally remained at home. His wife was Abigail (Griffith) Gates, a native of New York, in which State they lived on a farm until their removal in 1838 to Indiana where they died, he in 1841 and she in 1843. Of their twelve children, three are now living. David Gates' mother, was Sallie (Stevens) Gates, a native of Cheshire County, N. H., born in 1815, a daughter of Roswell Stevens, a Connecticut farmer, and of Lydia (Phillips) Stevens, a native of Rhode Island. After their marriage in New Hampshire they removed to Niagara County, N. Y., thence to Pennsylvania and in 1845 came to Michigan and settled on section 5, Berlin Township, Ionia County, where they completed their lives, he dying in 1853 and she following him in 1869. They were the parents of nine children, four of whom are now living.

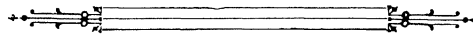
The parents of our subject were married in 1835, in Pennsylvania, where they resided for a few years before removing in 1843 to Indiana. They came on to Michigan in 1845, and settled on section 5, Berlin Township. It was all new land so

that he had to chop out and blaze his own road to Saranac. In the log house which he built there was but one single board, which he found in a creek and made a door of. Their most numerous neighbors were Indians and wild animals, among which might be named bear, deer, wild turkeys and wolves. He had little or nothing in his possession upon reaching Michigan, and after settling upon sixty acres and paying for the land his means were entirely used up, but he was a hardy man and cheerfully undertook all hardships. His industrious wife willingly turned her hand to any means of helping the family along. At one time she made a coat for a neighbor and received in payment sixteen bushels of potatoes. Some time later he added eighty acres to his farm, which addition he afterward gave to his sons. He has cleared altogether over one hundred and twenty acres of land. His first vote was cast for Martin Van Buren and he has ever since been a staunch Democrat in politics, and in religion a Baptist, being a Deacon in that denomination. They were the parents of four children: Lydia, born August 20, 1836, wife of Willard Bisbrow; they live in Osceola County, and have seven children. Zephaniah, born May 22, 1838, married Laura Granger, and lives in Montcalm County, with his wife and five children. Clinton, born December 18, 1840, married Elizabeth Vibber—they live on section 5; he has seven children by a former marriage with Jennie Andrews (deceased).

David Gates was born March 26, 1850, and was the youngest of his father's family. He attended his first school on his father's farm. Upon reaching his majority he took charge of the home place, and has always continued in that line of work. He now owns the old homestead and has added seventy-five acres to it, having now one hundred and thirty acres, one hundred of which are under the plow. He carries on mixed farming and keeps registered Poland-China hogs.

The subject of this sketch married December 23, 1871, Miss Charlotte Andrews, a daughter of Samuel T. and Rebecca (Hunt) Andrews, the former a native of New York and the latter of Rhode Island. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Andrews in New York they came to Michigan in 1858, settling

in Kalamazoo County on a farm, but later removing to Decatur Township, in Van Buren County where they died, he in 1879 and she ten years later. Of their five children three now survive: Burritt lives on the old homestead in Van Buren County; Marilla, Mrs. Emery Tuller, lives on section 31, of Berlin Township, and has two children. Mrs. Gates was born July 1, 1850, at Penn Yan, N. Y., and was educated at Albion, N. Y., and in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Gates have been blessed with two children: Bertha, born March 7, 1875, and Charles, February 2, 1880. They are both attending the district school. Mrs. Gates is an active member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Gates has been useful to the community as Director of Schools for nine years. He is a member of the Grange where he has been Overseer, and now belongs to the Patrons of Industry. His political affiliations are with the Democratic party and he has always taken an active interest in politics. In 1885 he held the office of Township Treasurer of Berlin, and in 1886 he was elected Supervisor of Berlin Township, which office he has held continuously ever since. He was a candidate for the State Legislature in the fall of 1890 on the Democratic ticket, and has been frequently appointed a delegate to the county, congressional and State conventions. When the celebrated Watkins trial was going on in October, 1889, he was one of the jurors in the United States District Court.



JOSHUA S. GUNN. For more than a quarter of a century this gentleman has been a potent factor in the financial progress of Sebawa Township, Ionia County, where he has carried on agricultural work and saw-milling, adding to the value of land here and increasing the circulation of the medium of exchange. He now devotes his attention entirely to agriculture, raising both crops and stock, and feeding all the products of his farm except the wheat. He does not invest in fancy stock but keeps reliable grades and is successful as a stockman. His farm consists of two hundred and eighty acres of good land, upon

which are substantial buildings and the other improvements that belong to a well-regulated estate. The barn was remodeled and added to by him and the dwelling is wholly his work. The latter was put up in 1880 from the best of material, mostly sawed in Mr. Gunn's mill, and the cash outlay for the edifice was about \$2,000.

Jacob Gunn, father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania but was quite young when his parents removed to Sussex County, N. J. There he lived until long after his marriage to Mary Ogden, who was a native of New Jersey and whose father was a Drum Major in the Revolutionary Army. To Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Gunn the following children came, named respectively: Experience, William, Elizabeth, Susan; Isaac, Jacob E., Ephraim, Sarah, Samuel, Hannah, Theodore, Mary Ann, Joshua S. and Phebe. After the birth of all their children Mr. and Mrs. Gunn removed to Susquehannah County, Pa., where the wife died in 1858, and the husband two years later; both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The subject of this notice was born April 5, 1835, and was five years old when his parents left New Jersey for the Keystone State. His educational privileges were not good, generally confined to three months in the winter, and after he was old enough to know the value of learning, averaging less than two months per year. His education therefore was mainly acquired at his own fireside and by practical self-effort. He has been a constant reader and his reading has covered a wide ground and given him a fund of miscellaneous information. Mr. Gunn did not begin his personal career until he was of age and his first work then was as a renter of his father's farm. After operating it thus two years he bought it and continued to work upon it five years longer, then sold and came to this State.

After spending one summer in Lenawee County, Mr. Gunn located in Ionia County in 1865. He and his brother Samuel bought two hundred acres of partially improved land, paying \$18 per acre. The tract was divided between them, our subject taking one hundred and twenty acres of the least improved part, but for two years the brothers farmed together. At the expiration of that time

Joshua Gunn and three other men bought a sawmill and placed it on section 23, where the firm of E. Shay & Co., operated for two years. Mr. Gunn then traded his interest for eighty acres of land and that in turn for a tract adjoining his original purchase here. The next four years were devoted to farming and he then, with his brother Theodore, built a mill near their home, which was run six years under the style of Gunn Bros. The investment proved a good one, but our subject finally decided to give his attention exclusively to agriculture, and he sold out to his brother who removed the mill to the big woods on Pine Lake.

September 19, 1869, was the day on which the marriage of Mr. Gunn and Miss Rachel Rider took place. The parents of the bride were Stephen and Elsie Ann (Sisson) Rider, natives of New York, who came to Washtenaw County, this State, in 1839. There their daughter Rachel was born November 23, 1840, she being one of seven children, the others named Henry E., Betsey A., John C., Stephen V., David and Daniel. Mr. Rider devoted the greater part of his life to carpenter's work, he having learned the trade with his father, but during his latter years he carried on a farm. From Washtenaw County he came to Ionia County and established his home on section 29, Sebewa Township. There Mrs. Rider died May 22, 1855. Her husband survived her a quarter of a century, passing away February 5, 1880. Both had good standing in the Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Gunn are the parents of three children, the youngest of whom, Sherba, died in childhood. The survivors are Rosetta and Fred J., and Mr. and Mrs. Gunn have taken into their family a little girl—Bessie May—who came to them at the age of fourteen months and knows no other parents save those who are so lovingly caring for her now. The schools of the district are good and the children of Mr. Gunn have had the advantages of them to the fullest extent. Miss Rosetta has also studied music and has made fair progress in that art.

In the affairs of the township Mr. Gunn has been fairly active and is now serving his fourth term as Treasurer. He has frequently been a school officer and is now serving as School Asses-

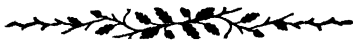


A. Rosekrans



C. Rosekrans

sor for the third time. In matters connected with school he has been energetic and efficient, and in any public station to which he is called he is reliable and painstaking. He is allied with the Democratic party, which he has served as a delegate, but is not particularly active in politics. The entire family belongs to the Patrons of Industry at Sebewa Center and Mr. Gunn has on several occasions represented their lodge as a delegate. Mr. Gunn is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while Mrs. Gunn and her daughter Rosetta belong to the Baptist Church in Sebewa. The family have high standing in the community and number their friends among the best people of the county.



ALMON ROSEKRANS. Few of the aged men in Ionia County are more widely known than Mr. Rosekrans, whose portrait with that of his wife appears on the opposite page and who has been identified with the progress of Lyons Township for half a century. He came here when the country was but sparsely settled and Indians were much more numerous than white men, and like other pioneers he endured many hardships and privations. During the second year of his residence he hauled grain to Detroit, as he could get no money for wheat in the county, and his milling was done at Pontiac, one hundred miles distant. While working by the month for the means of subsistence, he began clearing off a tract of land he had secured, and when he had a patch ready for planting he had only oxen with which to continue its cultivation. To-day the one hundred and forty acres of highly-cultivated land he possesses is stocked with horses and other animals of good grades, and tilled by means of improved farm machinery, such as was unknown when he came here.

The parents of our subject were Warren and Margaret (Hindman) Rosekrans, who were born in New York and married in that State January 30, 1812, when nineteen and seventeen years old respectively. They located in what was called the Holland Purchase, in Niagara County, and remained

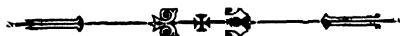
there as long as they lived. Mr. Rosekrans died September 30, 1822. They were the parents of eight children, the eldest of whom was about thirteen years old when left an orphan. All are now deceased except our subject. He was born May 3, 1817, and was thrown on the world when but seven years old. He was reared by Rosekrans Holmes, remaining in his native place until 1825 and receiving his fundamental education there. He then came with Mr. Holmes to this State and lived with him in Plymouth, Wayne County, until nineteen years old. He then worked by the month until he had earned \$100, which he gave to his guardian for his time, thus becoming a free man.

Mr. Rosekrans had nothing but his strong hands, willing heart and active brain with which to make his way in the world. He came to Ionia County and worked by the month for a Mr. C. Reynolds about two years, his wages being \$12.50 per month. Prudent and economical, he saved means with which to buy a piece of land in Clinton County, but soon disposed of it and purchased that on which he is now living. Continuing his work by the month he gave every moment he could find to work on his own land, and built a log house in which he established his home soon after his marriage. Encouraged by his good wife and aided by her prudent management, he continued to develop the land, and year by year made his home more comfortable and the property more valuable.

The lady who on April 26, 1840, united her fortunes to those of Mr. Rosekrans was Miss Caroline Brown, a native of the Empire State, born in Seneca County September 28, 1822. She was the elder of the two daughters making up the family of her parents and by her early training had become competent to take charge of a home. Mr. and Mrs. Rosekrans have had eight children, all of whom were reared on the homestead except one, whom they buried in its infancy. All have left the shelter of the parental roof for homes of their own, but several are living quite near the parents. Arthur resides in Bengal Township, Clinton County; Ernest E. in Bay County; Orson U. in Clinton County, just over the line; Judson T. in Gratiot County; Lorinda S. is the wife of Howard Wright and lives in Lyons Township; Leslie W. has a home

in Clinton County; Margaret, wife of Harry Woodworth, lives in Lyons Township.

Orson Rosekrans now operates his father's farm as well as his own. He was married in 1887 to Miss Susan McInnis, who was born in Canada but reared in Michigan. They have a little daughter, Rena. She is one of twenty-three grand-children of our subject and his good wife and the eldest of the number is nineteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Rosekrans of this notice celebrated their golden wedding on the place which has been their home since November 26, 1840. They look back with strange feelings to the days when they sold wheat for forty-one cents per bushel and occupied the little log house around which wolves howled and deer frequently passed, and rejoice greatly in the wonderful changes their eyes have seen. They have a source of gratitude in the fact that notwithstanding their early poverty there was never a mortgage on their land and that they never contracted an obligation until they saw their way to an immediate payment. Mr. Rosekrans has always been a Republican until the last general election when his vote was cast for Prohibition candidates.



LEANDER MILLARD is one of the most prominent men in Ionia County. He owns large tracts of land and is well known and highly respected. He is strictly temperate in his habits and has been all his life. His strict integrity in money matters is proverbial. He never sued any one and never was sued in his life, neither does any man ever have to ask him for the payment of a debt or a note, as he pays them promptly the day they are due without giving opportunity for a dun. His fine farm is situated on section 14, of Ronald Township.

The subject of this notice was born in Massachusetts, March 21, 1824. He is a son of Dr. Millard of Massachusetts and grandson of Joshua Millard, a native of Ireland and a soldier in the War of 1812. The mother of our subject was born and reared in Massachusetts. Her maiden name was Alvina Atwood. After the marriage of Dr.

and Mrs. Millard they remained for several years in Massachusetts and then removed to Starkey, Yates County, N. Y., where for several years they made their home on a farm. In 1841 they removed to Michigan, coming by team from Detroit to Lyons Township, Ionia County. Here on a farm they established a happy home and spent the remainder of their days. The Doctor passed from earth in 1880, having been bereaved of his wife in 1861. He had been all his life a man of wide interests. He was a Republican in politics and while in New York was captain of a rifle company. His military qualifications were noteworthy and were appreciated by his comrades; he was promoted to the position of Colonel. He was ever active in political affairs and worked hard at times of election. He and his sons were all vigorous supporters of William Henry Harrison in 1840. He was a member of the Baptist Church and helped to build the church in his home in Yates County, N. Y., and to procure a pastor for it. He was an officer in this church and with his wife warmly supported its work. All their ten children are now living except the oldest son John. The survivors are Malinda, Betsey, Charles, Bolton V., Leander, Nancy, Gordan J., Lydia and Matilda.

Leander Millard was brought by his parents to Yates County, N. Y., when an infant of one year. Here he was reared and received his early education. When his parents came to Michigan he accompanied them. When he reached his majority he took up a farm in the woods, five miles from any white man on Maple River. Here he bought a place and lived alone, doing his own cooking while he cleared the land. For two years he lived here and then went back to his father's and worked for him about two years.

The subject of this sketch was in December, 1846, united in marriage with Sarah Van Vleck, who was born in Ulster County, N. Y., April 22, 1822, Her early training and education were conducted in Delaware County, N. Y., whence she had removed with her parents when an infant of one year. Her parents were Mathew and Deborah (North) Van-Vleck. The father's father was a Hollander.

Although Mr. Millard's farm was in Montcalm County, he did not like to take his bride there

because the country was in such a wild condition and they were so far removed from white neighbors. So he bought one acre of improved land in Ronald Township, Ionia County, and built a house of hewed logs. He improved this place and lived upon it for eight years. The family then removed to the village of Palo, which place was laid out on Mr. Millard's farm. Here they did double duty, keeping an hotel and running the farm. In 1865 they removed to sections 11 and 12, a partially improved piece of land. Here our subject proceeded to improve the property. In 1884 he bought the place where he now resides. Here he is engaged in farming and fish-raising and has a fine fish pond on his place.

Four sons and one daughter have blessed this home, namely: Mathew, Seymour, Frank, Van Vleck and Vena D. Mr. and Mrs. Millard have three hundred and eighty acres of land mostly under cultivation. He is a Republican in politics and in his religious belief is a Baptist, although not now connected with any local church. At one time he handled a great deal of fine stock. He bought the first fine sheep that were ever brought into the county. He paid \$50 apiece for them and paid \$100 for one little ewe lamb. He was a great huntsman in the early days of the country and had frequent opportunities to prove his reputation as a good shot. His farm boasts of one of the finest springs in the country and he has utilized it by attaching a watermill which does the churning and keeps the current of water stirring through his fish pond. Winter and summer this spring never ceases to flow, furnishing water in abundance for house and farm. His home is located in a beautiful grove in one of the garden spots of Michigan.



BRADLEY B. CRAWFORD is a stock-raiser of considerable note in Ionia County and the country round about. He is a breeder of Norman horses, Merino sheep and Durham cattle, the horses found upon his estate being especially fine. The place which he now owns and occupies consists of one hundred and sixty acres on

section 4, Otisco Township, and bears a set of good buildings, including every necessary and convenient arrangement for the carrying on of the work in which he is engaged. He does not give his entire attention to the stock business, but successfully cultivates much of his land, marketing a share of the crops harvested thereon.

Mr. Crawford has Revolutionary blood in his veins, his grandfather, Robert Crawford, a native of Nova Scotia, having fought in the struggle for independence and afterward received a pension for his services. The parents of our subject were Anson and Electa (Goff) Crawford, who were married in New York, the father being a native of Saratoga County. The mother was a daughter of Roswell Goff and was born in the old Bay State. In 1835 Mr. and Mrs. Crawford came to this State and for forty years they were numbered among the residents of Shelby, Macomb County. They then removed to Lansing, where Mr. Crawford died in 1879, and Mrs. Crawford in 1881. They had two sons and five daughters named respectively, Bradley B., Milburn L., Angeline, Laura, Caroline, Fatima and Fidelia. Mr. Crawford was a farmer and owned one hundred and twenty acres of land in Macomb County. He was Justice of the Peace two terms.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Livingston County, N. Y., July 6, 1826, and was a lad nine years old when he accompanied the other members of the family to this State. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-three years old, after which he left their roof to make a home for himself. He settled in Montcalm County and remained there until 1880, when he came to his present location. He was married January 1, 1851, to Mary J. Dicken, daughter of John and Jemima (Gass) Dicken, natives of England and New York respectively. Her brothers and sisters are John, Andrew, William, Lewis, Nelson and Lottie. Her own children are Charles, Jay, Nora, John, William, Belle, Emmet and Lottie.

The intelligence, honor and good judgment of Mr. Crawford have been recognized by his associates and he has served them in several capacities. In Montcalm County he was Supervisor of Fairplains Township, Township Clerk fourteen years

and Justice of the Peace sixteen years. In the same county he was Superintendent of the Poor eighteen years. He is and always has been a Republican. He is a member of the Patrons of Industry, now President of the Otisco Union Association and Vice President of the Montcalm County Association. He is Master of Montcalm Grange and Secretary of the County Grange, and has been for twenty years. He belongs to Eureka Lodge, No. 91, I. O. O. F., at Greenville. Mrs. Crawford is a member of the Congregational Church; she is a well-informed and kindly woman, earnest in her efforts to do her duty to her family and those in whose midst her lot is cast.



HIRAM SACKETT. This veteran of the Civil War was one of those who enlisted at the first tap of the drum, entering the service at an age that made it necessary for him to have the written consent of his parents. He is now agent for the American Express Company in Edmore, Montcalm County, and also carries on a grocery store and superintends a farm in Home Township. It will readily be understood that he is a busy man and abundantly supplied with energy and "push." His store is the seat of a thriving trade, as it is well supplied with the articles that are in demand for family use, and is managed in accordance with good business principles.

Mr. Sackett was born in Carlton, Orleans County N. Y., April 22, 1843, and reared on a farm. He was the third in a family of eleven and the eldest son that lived to maturity. Much work, therefore, rested on his shoulders, and at an early period in his existence he began the labors by which he helped to supply the wants of the other members of the family. His school privileges were very limited and his entire attendance at institutions of learning amounted to less than three terms. He was not able to write when he entered the army, but whenever the duties of camp life would allow he practiced the art that he desired to learn. His instructor was an Englishman, George E. Ashby by

name, to whom he gave a watch in payment, and whose life was afterward saved by the time-keeper that prevented a bullet from piercing his body.

During his youth young Sackett worked out as a farm hand, his earnings going to his parents. When the war began he was anxious to enter the service and his parents consented to his enlistment. May 31, 1861, he was mustered in at Elmira, N. Y., his name being attached to the muster roll of Company K, Twenty-seventh New York Infantry. He was one of those who took part in the first battle at Bull Run, and he afterward fought at Centerville, Cat Lick Station, West Point and Mechanicsville. Being taken with typhoid fever he was sent to the hospital at Washington and lay there from July to November, 1862, and was reported dead. When convalescent he was put on detailed service in Virginia until able to rejoin his regiment, which was in March of the following year. After the battle of Fredericksburg, his time having expired, he was honorably discharged May 30, 1863.

After a few months spent in the North Mr. Sackett again entered the service, enlisting September 15, 1863, in Company L, Second New York Mounted Rifles. He was mustered in at Buffalo as Corporal and early in the following March went South. The regiment had not been able to get mounts and so took muskets and went to the front as did the infantry men. Mr. Sackett was in the second battle of the Wilderness, North Anna and Cold Harbor, the siege of Petersburg and the fight at Pegram Farm, before the regiment was equipped and mounted as a part of Gregg's Cavalry. This was in December, 1864, and the boys participated in Belfield raid. In the battle at Stony Creek March 31, 1865, Mr. Sackett received a gunshot wound through the right shoulder blade and was laid up until September. He was sent to a hospital at Washington and during his period of suffering had twenty-seven pieces of bone removed from his shoulder. He was honorably discharged at Elmira, N. Y., September 16, and for three or four years was able to do but little, owing to the effect of his wound and his long confinement.

In 1866 Mr. Sackett came to this State and for two years he was engaged in farming in Penfield Township, Calhoun County. The next year was

spent in similar work near Lowell, Ionia County. In 1873 he removed to Union City and for two years he was incapacitated for work by an abscess in his shoulder. He then busied himself at various occupations and acted as Constable and Marshal. He was Deputy Sheriff of Branch County six years. In September, 1882, he came to Edmore and the following spring became the American Express agent. A big business was done by the company when Mr. Sackett first took the agency, and his earnings while working for it during the first years gave him his financial start. Two years after he came to Edmore he began buying butter and eggs for both wholesale and retail trade, and from this he drifted into the grocery business. His farm land consists of eighty-five acres on section 26, with good buildings and other improvements and another improved tract of forty acres on the same section. He has also real estate in Edmore.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Hiram Sackett, a native of Pennsylvania, and an early settler of this State, to which he came in the fall of 1844. He located in Hillsdale County and improved a farm near Moscow. He was of Welsh descent. The father of our subject was Luther Sackett, who was born in Pennsylvania in December, 1816, but reared in Orleans County, N. Y. He farmed there until 1865, then located in Calhoun County this State, not far from Battle Creek. He subsequently removed to that city and died there in January, 1887. Politically speaking he was a Republican. He married Sallie Strickland, who was born in New York near Argyle, Washington County, in September, 1816. She is an earnest, humble Christian, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since she entered her teens. She is now living in Battle Creek. Her father, Jesse Strickland, was a native of Vermont, but lived in New York during the greater part of his life. His occupation was farming.

In Ionia February 21, 1867, the ceremony was performed that made Miss Persenia L. Beach the wife of our subject. The bride, who is a daughter of Harlon D. and Amy Beach of the Empire State, was born in Orleans County, N. Y., and was engaged in school-teaching prior to her marriage. It has been her aim to keep up with the times in her

knowledge of events that are transpiring, and to do her part in aiding the wheels of progress in the community of which she forms a part.

Mr. Sackett is a Mason, belonging to Edmore Lodge and Council, and the Chapter at Stanton. He is also connected with the Knights of the Macca-bees in Edmore. As might well be supposed, he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and for four years he has been Commander of J. T. Borrell Post, No. 130, at Edmore. He often attends State and National encampments and he is now Deputy Department Inspector of the organization. He is also a charter member in the Independent Order of Good Templars and has held all the offices. In his political views, as in other opinions, Mr. Sackett knows where he stands and is staunch in his support of that in which he believes. He is a Republican and during the campaigns is active in his efforts to advance the affairs of the party.



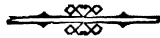
DANIEL STOUTD, a prosperous and respected farmer of section 26, North Plains Township, Ionia County, came up to his present happy condition from deepest poverty. He commenced to work out by the month on farms as soon as he was old enough, for his father was very poor, and having a large family found himself unable to support them all, so this little boy lived in one place and another away from home from the time he was seven years old, and all the schooling that was given him was what he could gain in the winter terms of the district school.

This representative of American push and progress was born in Summit County, Ohio, May 4, 1838. His father, John Stoutd, was a native of Pennsylvania and a school-teacher. The mother bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Dick. This worthy but unfortunate couple were married in Ohio and died there. They struggled hard to bring up their ten children to become honest and honored men and women. The marriage of our subject with Tryphena Huffman, a native of Ohio, took place in that State in 1859. By this union

there were eleven children born, seven daughters and four sons, namely, Edward; Nora, Mrs. Barker; Walter; Sarah, Mrs. Haight; Ada, Mrs. Goodwin; Eli, Caddie, Daniel, Jessie, Minnie and Grace. The mother of these children was called from earth March 29, 1884. Mr. Stoudt chose as his second wife Emmanca Willard, a native of North Plains Township. She was born in 1858 and the eldest child of Harvey and Məranda (Baker) Willard. This marriage took place in 1885 and two children, Edna and Ora were born, both being taken away in infancy.

When Mr. Stoudt first removed to Michigan from Ohio in 1863 he came to Ionia County and located where he now resides, buying eighty acres of unimproved land, five acres only of it being partially broken. In a log house 18x24 feet which he erected here he made his home and proceeded to clear the trees from the land. His present fine farm of two hundred and sixty-one acres is a monument to the tremendous amount of work which he has accomplished by his own hands. Only twenty-five acres have been cleared by any one else. His fine square two-story brick house cost over \$3,000. His good barn and many outbuildings mark a first-class farm.

The specialty on this farm is fine wool sheep, of which this enterprising farmer has over one hundred and twenty-five head. He was a poor man when he came to this State and had to borrow money to start with. He belongs to the Democratic party and is a member of the Patrons of Industry. He is a conscientious member and earnest worker in the United Brethren Church in which he holds the office of Steward.



ATTILIA G. WILSON, a Deacon in the Baptist Church, is a valued man in the community. He has gained his prosperity through much hard work, and has seen the depths of poverty. In his early life he was so hard beset with debts at one time, as to offer to give his property to any one who would pay the debt on it, but fortunately for him no one came forward to accept this proposition, and he managed

at last to clear himself, and is now living in comfort in his handsome two-story frame house on section 14, Ronald Township. He was born in New York, November 4, 1829. His father, John, was also a native of New York, and of Irish descent. His wife's maiden name was Amy Coon; she is a native of New York, where she was brought up.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were married in New York and coming West they located at Detroit, Mich., in 1836, and then came on to Adrian by team, making their new home some three miles west of Adrian, where he undertook to run a sawmill. Here he lived for four years and bought some land in Lenawee County, in the township of Hudson. Then he sold out and removed to Hudson, where he remained eight years and returned again to farm life. His father was called away from earth in 1882, and his mother followed him in 1888. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom are now living, namely: Marcus D. L., who resides in Niles, Mich.; Mary, Mrs. Ladd, of Hudson; Charlotte; and the subject of this sketch.

This last named son was five years old when he came with his parents to reside in Michigan. He received his schooling in a log schoolhouse, and when he reached his majority he borrowed \$5 and started out for himself. He went to Grand Haven. There he sawed slabs two weeks for his board, and secured work in the sawmill at \$16 a month with board. This work he followed until in August, 1840, when he was taken sick. His sickness cost him all that he had gained and he returned home and remained with his father a year. He then went to work again by the month on a farm at \$11 per month. In 1855 he bought the place where he now lives.

On October 1, 1856 he took to himself a wife, Mary J. Heath, a native of Pennsylvania, born August 30, 1835. She came to Michigan with her parents when quite young. Here she was reared and received her education in the district schools. The first home of the young married couple was a log house 14x16 feet. There was plenty of wild game all about. On one occasion they saw seven deer in their enclosure. They became the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters. Two of these survive: John D., who resides in Port Huron,

and teaches in the business college there: and Ida, who is still a schoolgirl. Mr. Wilson has one hundred and thirty acres of land, all under fine cultivation except thirty-five acres, which he keeps in timber. His home is in a two-story frame house, which he erected at an expense of about \$2,000. Here he resides and carries on general farming and stock-raising. He is a Republican in politics, and often has the offer of nominations to office which he never accepts.



BON. ABIEL S. STANNARD. Some of the early settlers in Ionia County are still living and rejoicing in the prosperity to which they have contributed and whose gradual growth they have witnessed. One of this number is Mr. Stannard, a farmer and stock-raiser on section 29, Boston Township. He came hither with his parents about the time he entered his teens and at once set to work to aid his father to clear a large tract of land. At that time there was but little cleared land in what is now Boston Township and settlers were few and remote from each other. Indians were numerous but peaceable, and often invited the settlers to their dances. Wild animals of course were numerous, railroads unknown, and travel from house to house was done over a trail or an almost invisible wagon track. When the Stannards arrived here there were but four families in the township, and these occupied three log houses.

The parents of our subject were of English descent and both were born in Newport, N. H. The father, whose given name was Jeremiah, carried on a farm in his native State until 1824, when he removed to Hardwick, Vt. In the spring of 1837 he brought his family to Ionia County, traveling principally by water to Detroit and there buying teams, by means of which he continued the journey. He had come to this State in the fall of 1836 and bought two hundred and eighty acres of land where our subject now lives, and after making some preparations for his future work he returned to the East for his family. They lived with Mr. White

about three weeks, while a bark shanty was being built for their occupancy, and they then took possession of the rude structure, occupying it six weeks and doing their cooking out of doors. During that time Mr. Stannard built a log cabin into which the family removed.

No doors were hung in the rude cabin, but blankets were used over the openings. Furniture was limited and rudely made, though much of it was very substantial. Our subject now has in his possession a chair made by his father in 1838, the frame of which is of hickory and the bottom of ash splints. The sound of the woodman's ax scarcely ceased from morning until night long after the family had come to their Western home. When a small clearing was made it was placed under cultivation and as rapidly as possible the work of improvement was carried on. Trading was done at Kalamazoo, sixty miles distant, and the trip to and fro was made with ox-teams. The Stannard farm was transferred from a wilderness into a fertile tract, upon which comfortable buildings stood, and around it similar improvements were made by others and schools and churches finally sprang up in the vicinity. The original owner of the tract lived upon it until November 25, 1886, when he entered into rest. His capable wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Call, had preceded him to the silent land, breathing her last March 22, 1876. They were earnest Christians and discharged every duty as far as they were able.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Newport, N. H., December 28, 1823, and was the first-born of his parents. He has two sisters—Eunice S., widow of Becket Chapman, and Persis, wife of J. E. English, both living in Boston Township. His early education was obtained in the Green Mountain State and he had little opportunity for schooling after he came West. He, however, gained a wide fund of knowledge, principally by reading, and is well versed in all topics of the day. He not only takes papers which keeps him in touch with the world at large, but has a large library of well-selected volumes and devotes much time to their perusal.

Mr. Stannard assisted his father until he was of age, and afterward continued to live on the home-

stead, of which he took charge in 1847. He has continued successfully the work begun so many years ago, and has the entire tract under good cultivation, furnished with a complete set of substantial farm buildings and stocked with good domestic animals and modern machinery. The original acreage was two hundred and forty, but this has been reduced to two hundred acres. This is a tract capable of supplying the wants of the family and leaving a surplus from which to draw in time of need and aid those who are less fortunate, or to join in public enterprises.

Mr. Stannard was fortunate in winning for his wife Miss Hannah E. Fletcher, with whom he was united in marriage December 18, 1853. She is a daughter of John G. and Eunice (Baxter) Fletcher, well known in Ionia County, to which they came in the spring of 1845. Mr. Fletcher was born in Rutland County, Vt., and was a carpenter and joiner by trade. For some time he carried on his work in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. Mrs. Fletcher was born on Baxter Island, in the St. Lawrence River, and is of Irish ancestry. She is still living on the Fletcher homestead, in Boston Township, with her son Asa. Mr. Fletcher died in 1885. He was a member of the Baptist Church and his widow is identified with that religious body. Mr. and Mrs. Stannard have two children, named Jay D. and Gates L. The elder is a surveyor in Weld County, Col., and the younger is farming on part of the homestead. Jay D. married Miss Frances Buell and they have two children, Glyn and Carlos Abiel. Gates married Jessie Story, and they have two children, Ethel and Carl Harold.

In exercising the right of suffrage Mr. Stannard uses a Republican ballot as his faith in the future of that party is strong. He has served the people of this section in local offices and in the Legislative halls, and to whatever position he has been called he has brought an earnest desire to act well his part and advance their best interests. He has been School Trustee, was Supervisor four terms and in 1867-69 was a member of the Legislature. He was quite an active member of the Grange for ten or twelve years. He helped to organize the Lowell National Bank and was a Director and stock-holder in the corporation as long it was in

existence. Liberality in supporting all public enterprises and earnest work for the upbuilding of the community have characterized Mr. Stannard as a citizen, and industry and forethought have marked him as a man.



GEORGE W. STANTON, a resident of Sidney Township, Montcalm County, and son of James and Martha (Niles) Stanton, both of New York, was born in Greene County, N. Y., and reared on the Hudson River about one hundred miles from New York City. His educational advantages were mostly confined to the country schools, as he spent his early life on the farm, yet he attended two terms of school at Rensselaerville, Albany County. He began life for himself at the age of twenty-one years, when he engaged in farming and speculation. In his twenty-eighth year he removed to the western part of the State, where he engaged in lumbering and farming on the Genesee River. He sold clear lumber for \$8 per thousand. Two years later he made a new home in Winnebago County, Ill., on the Rock River, one hundred miles from Chicago. He bought a half-section and improved it, farming and speculating in live stock for twelve years, buying and selling stock of all kinds in Chicago. From there he came to Sheridan, Mich., where he arrived July, 1869, in company with his brother, a resident now of Ionia, whose biography also appears on another page in this ALBUM.

Mr. Stanton was married in Illinois September 16, 1856, to Nellie Bry, of Delaware County, N. Y., and they have become the parents of the following children: M. A., deceased; Milton B., Henry N. and George L. After coming to Michigan he engaged in the lumber business, clearing off timber and milling at Sheridan, on Pearl Lake. He continued in this business about sixteen years, hauling all the products of the mill to Ionia, a distance of sixteen miles for the first five years. He helped to plat the town, and when the railroad company was negotiating with the city, they gave \$4,000 to insure the coming of the road through that place. He has always been active in promo-

ting the interests of the town and erected its first store building, where he engaged in the mercantile business while carrying on lumbering.

He is a Republican in politics, and is actively interested in political questions. He has long been Supervisor and also President of the village as well as Treasurer for a number of terms. He is an active promoter of all educational movements, and generously assisted in putting up a \$3,000 school-house. He has a nice farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and built a beautiful residence in the city about nine years ago. His two sons are progressive young business men; one is engaged in the drug business in this place, and the other is superintending the lumbering business in Cataract.



JAMES M. CHASE is one of the pioneer breeders of Red-Polled cattle in the State, and on his farm in Ionia County has some fine specimens. In his herd there are seven head of thorough-breds and a large number of high-grade. Mr. Chase also takes a deep interest in Poland-China hogs and has a number of registered animals. The property which is the seat of his stock-raising and upon which he also cultivates various grains, is located on section 2, Ionia Township, and consists of one hundred and thirty-two acres of land, over one hundred of which is improved.

Mr. Chase is of English lineage and traces the family from the mother country to New England and thence to New York. His grandfather, George Chase, was a native-born Yankee, but went to New York and there reared his son John B., father of our subject. John B. Chase married Sarah A. Stone who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., May 10, 1828. She came to this State in 1846 and made her home with her brother Darius until her marriage in 1849. Her parents were Orrin and Betsey (Cowell) Stone, natives of Connecticut and New York respectively, who died in the latter State in 1842 and 1845. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. John B. Chase settled upon the land that is now the home of their son, our subject, it being

at that time in almost a primitive condition. They settled in one of the first frame houses in the township and placed the land under thorough tillage. Mr. Chase died here March 9, 1890, and his widow still survives. He was a member of the School Board, belonging to the social order of the Grange and was a Republican in politics. For nearly forty years he belonged to the Christian Church and his wife too was a member.

The family of which our subject was a member consists of five children, three living and two deceased. The other survivors are George W., whose wife was formerly Relia A. Campfield and who has six children, and Zach C., who married Mary Jane McDunnell and has three children lives in Muir. In the farmhouse that he still occupies James M. Chase was born, November 16, 1851. His father having lost a leg by the bite of a dog in 1861, the lad was obliged to remain at home and therefore lost much schooling. After arriving at man's estate he still sojourned under the parental roof a few years, then married and settled one-half mile south of his old home. He remained there six years, then returned to the homestead and gave his attention to its further development and to the raising of fine stock.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Hattie Fea was solemnized June 15, 1876. The bride is a daughter of Charles and Mary Ann (Strouts) Fea, natives of England who came to this State at an early day. They returned to their native land but came again to America and after living for a time in New York located in Jackson, Mich., in 1856. They came to Ronald Township, Ionia County, in 1865. They have had ten children, nine of whom are now living. Mrs. Chase was born in New York State August 27, 1853. She obtained a common-school education and other useful knowledge, including the Christian principles that animate her life. Two children have been born to her—John B., now aged eleven years, and Myrta A., aged nine.

Mr. Chase is a straight Republican and takes sufficient interest in politics to understand the issues of the day and visit the polls at the proper time. He has been a member of the Grange and is identified with the Patrons of Industry. He is a

man of strict temperance principles and he and his wife belong to the Christian Church. He is a Deacon of what is known as the Union Church in North Plains Township and he and his wife aid in Sunday-school work. Intelligent, hospitable and public-spirited, Mr. and Mrs. Chase are well regarded by their neighbors.



SAMUEL J. YOUNGMAN, a farmer and lumberman residing on section 29, Cato Township, Montcalm County, was born in Oxford, Oakland County, Mich., February 21, 1848. He is the son of Samuel P. and Sarah J. (Dowse) Youngman. The father was born in Tioga County, Pa., in April, 1811. There he was brought up and lived until he was a young man, when he came to Michigan early in the '40s, and worked on a canal in Macomb County, then in course of construction. A little later he went to London, Canada, and kept an hotel when the Chicago & Grand Trunk Railroad was being built. Later, when the McKenzie Rebellion broke out, he found himself in an unpleasant position, as his sympathies were with the United States, so he returned to Michigan and made his home at Oxford, Oakland County, until November, 1855, when he settled on a farm in Montcalm County, where his son now resides. He died April 10, 1890, aged eighty years. He took the land under the Government land laws of that date.

The whole country was heavily timbered and from Langston to the point where Mr. Youngman made his home they were compelled to go ahead with their teams and cut the roads; a compass was necessary to get the direction. He went to work on his one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, which is now in a high state of cultivation under the management of our subject and his brother. The nearest railroad station at that time was fifty miles away at Ionia. The nearest market was Greenville, eighteen miles away. Indians and wild game were abundant. The first house erected by Mr. Youngman was built of logs, 12x24 feet in dimensions, with a single roof. Here this cour-

ageous and contented family lived for several years. At that time there was not a clearing of ten acres within twelve miles of them. This brave pioneer has followed farming all his life. He was a Republican and has held some minor offices in his town. The family is of German extraction. He was a member of the Church of the United Brethren. He was twice married, first to Mercy Bentley in Pennsylvania. Her two children, John B. and Mary A. (Mrs. George Churchill), have both passed away from earth. His second wife was born in Little, Mass., in 1827, and died in the home in Michigan in 1868. Of her five children only two have lived to ages of maturity, our subject and his brother George C.

Samuel J. Youngman was but eight years old when he came in 1855 with his parents to the farm in Cato Township. His education was received in the old schoolhouse in Cato Township. The logs were covered with bark, the floor was of punch-eon and the seats were of slabs. His education was supplemented by attendance upon the common schools at Greenville. When he was about twenty years of age he purchased of Gov. Crapo forty acres of land on section 28, at \$5 per acre. He has since added to this, and now has a splendid farm of four hundred and eighty acres, all in one body, with about three hundred acres of it well improved and in a high state of cultivation. His barns are the largest and finest in the township and his farm carries the highest tax of any in Cato, while his residence is a credit to the section in which he lives.

The subject of this sketch carries on extensive farming interests and deals largely in stock. He is raising thoroughbred Durham cattle. His large barn is 44x88 feet with basement and eighteen-foot posts. His root cellar in connection with it is 20x40 feet. For many years he has been dealing in logs and lumber, handling several thousand dollars worth of logs each winter and owning considerable timbered land in different parts of the State. He has made all that he has by his own exertions, starting out on his own account when he was twenty-one years old.

Mr. Youngman is a Republican in politics and has held some of the responsible offices in the gov-

ernment of the town. He is also a Royal Arch Mason. On February 22, 1869, he was married to Miss Maria Wetmore, of Cato. She was born in Ingham County in 1852, and was a daughter of Ambrose and Jane Wetmore. Mrs. Youngman died in 1870, a year after her marriage. Mr. Youngman's second marriage united him, August 9, 1871, with Miss Elizabeth Newsome, of Milford, Oakland County, where she was born February 11, 1842. She is a daughter of Jerrod and Mary Newsome, of Oakland County.



FRED ORTH. Among the many men who have done well, financially speaking, by tilling the soil in Ionia County, is Fred Orth, who is located on section 26, Ronald Township. He has a fine farm consisting of two hundred acres of land, all under cultivation except thirty-five acres of timber. The farm is supplied with substantial barns and other outbuildings, including everything that is necessary in order to stamp it a first-class estate. The dwelling is a pleasant one and neatness and order prevail in and about it. When Mr. Orth settled on this place in 1867, the land he now owns was largely undeveloped. Ninety acres had been partially improved, but it was still better developed and the rest reclaimed by his own good management and much personal labor.

The father of our subject was Mathias Orth, who was born in France and emigrated to America when of age. He established himself in Philadelphia, Pa., engaging in the business of a baker, and there he married Miss Caroline Guyer, a native of Germany who had crossed the Atlantic when young. In 1864 Mr. and Mrs. Orth came to this State, traveling with a team from Detroit to Eaton County and locating on land near the home of their son. After some years they removed to Ionia in order to enjoy greater ease, abandoning farm life and hard work. There Mr. Orth died in 1878 and his widow still lives. They had eleven children, and four daughters and four sons grew to mature years. Of these Magdalene is now deceased; Fred will be mentioned below; Caroline lives in Ionia; Jacob G.

is a resident of Ronald Township; Elizabeth lives in Ionia; Lewis P. is a resident of Travers City; Susan makes her home in Ionia; and Charles M. lives in Virginia.

The birthplace of Fred Orth was in Pennsylvania, seven miles from Philadelphia, and his natal day November 28, 1835. He was but a year old when his parents removed to Summit County, Ohio, and there he received his first schooling. He remained with his father until he was twenty-four years old, and then began working on the Ohio Canal, an occupation in which he continued five years. He next took up the business of saw-milling in Summit County and after eight years of work there moved to Saginaw, Mich., where he carried on the business three years. He next came to his present location in 1867 and turned his attention to agricultural work, in which he has continued to exercise his skill. It needs but a glance over his farm to show that he is a capable agriculturist.

In Summit County, Ohio, March 24, 1864, Mr. Orth was united in marriage with Miss Sarah C. Baxter. This amiable and efficient lady was born in the Buckeye State and was the third of four children comprising the family of Rinaldo and Elvira (Swan) Baxter. She is the only one of the number now living and her parents are likewise deceased. Her father was a native of New York and her mother of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Orth are the parents of nine children, named respectively: William H. married March 11, 1891, to Miss Addie Boltz; Effie E., Alma R., Inez Irene, Fanny C., Charles W., Esther Estelle, Sarah C. and Ola Olive. All are at home except two married daughters—Effie, whose home is in Grand Rapids, she being the wife of John Boltz, and Alma, now Mrs. William Hunter, who lives on a farm near Muir.

In his religious views Mr. Orth inclines to the Lutheran Church and in politics he is a Democrat. He is a prominent member of one of the best-known social orders, and has been a Mason for twenty-six years. His name is on the roster of Palo Lodge, No. 203, in which he has filled every chair and was Master for a period of four years; he is now Senior Deacon. He is also connected with the Chapter at Lyons. Mr. Orth was Presi-

dent of the Patrons of Industry two terms and Secretary two years. Notwithstanding his busy life as a farmer and stock-raiser he takes an active part in all the affairs that are conducted by his lodge, and joins in all worthy enterprises that are promulgated for the general good.



E DSON P. GIFFORD. This veteran of the Civil War has been Postmaster at Saranac, Ionia County, since June, 1889, and is numbered among the most prominent business men of that thriving town. He is engaged in the sale of general merchandise, carrying one of the largest stocks to be seen in the place, and finding a room 30x80 feet none too large for his use. The building that he occupies is a substantial brick put up by him in 1884, and at that time fitted up for the purpose which it now serves. Mr. Gifford has not always been a merchant, but in other lines of man's work has borne an honorable part, ever manifesting the sturdy qualities that win respect from his associates.

Mr. Gifford was born in Oswego County, N. Y., August 6, 1832, and is a son of Thomas and Julia (Rich) Gifford. His father was born in the Empire State and was of English and German descent and his mother was a native of Connecticut. In his earlier years Thomas Gifford followed the trade of a mason, but he gave up that work for millwrighting, at which he was engaged until his decease, which occurred in Madison County, N. Y., about 1859. He had been bereft of his wife some years before, her eyes having closed to earthly things in 1848. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

He of whom we write spent the first twelve years of his life in the village of Fulton, then accompanied his parents to Otsego County, where he continued his early education. When fifteen years old he began to learn the millwright's trade with his father, but after the family removed to Madison County he again took up his books and attended the academy. He had, however, prior to this time, had some experience in teaching. Upon leaving the academy he turned his attention

to the work of a millwright, and when he was twenty-two years old went to Ottawa, Ill., and put in machinery. He worked at various occupations in that State about three years, then came to Michigan and put in machinery for mills in Kent County along Mill Creek. About 1857 he bought eighty acres of land there, which he began to clear and improve.

In the fall of 1861 Mr. Gifford entered the army and was enrolled in Company D, First Michigan Engineers. About the first of December the regiment was ordered to Kentucky, where our subject was engaged in such duties as fell to the lot of an engineer corps until the following fall. He was then detailed for recruiting service and spent about two years in this State, raising troops, and during that time he was promoted from First Duty Sergeant to be Senior First Lieutenant of Company L, and four months later to be Captain of Company M. After rising to the rank of Captain he was stationed in Alabama and when Sherman started on his march to the sea Capt. Gifford had charge of a battalion. He moved around in Alabama and Tennessee, as the plan of the commanding Generals made necessary, and at length came home on a ninety days' furlough. He rejoined his command at Goldsboro, N. C., and followed Johnston until he surrendered, then marched with Sherman's army to Washington. Thence he was ordered back to Nashville, where he remained until September, 1865, when his command was mustered out and coming to Jackson was paid off and discharged.

About a month after his return to his home Mr. Gifford went to Nashville, Tenn, and built a grist and sawmill on the Cumberland river. He operated them about eighteen months, when they were destroyed by an incendiary fire caused by the antagonistic feeling toward him as a Northerner. Realizing that life in that vicinity was not likely to be pleasant, he returned to this State and until December, 1868, busied himself as a millwright. He then came to Ionia County and bought eighty acres of land in Campbell Township, on which there was a sawmill. He carried on the farm and mill until 1881, when he sold them and moved into Saranac in order to take personal charge of a store he had bought some time before. While on the

farm he had added to its extent and when he disposed of the place it included four hundred acres.

In September, 1853, Mr. Gifford was united in marriage with Miss Martha A. Manchester of Madison County, N. Y. Politically he is and always has been a Republican. For four years he was Supervisor of Campbell Township and for an equal length of time he was County Sheriff. He has also been Supervisor of Boston Township and for four years has held the station of Village Trustee. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges and of the Grand Army Post in Saranac and was the organizer of the last named. During his army life he conducted himself as became a loyal citizen, whose valor could not be questioned and whose enthusiasm on the side of right never flagged.



LS. CROTSER, M. D. The spirit of enterprise and laudable ambition is finely exemplified in the career of Dr. Crotser, a popular and successful physician and surgeon of Edmore, Montcalm County. He made his way through college, won his diploma from one of the best medical schools in the country, and in a few short years built up a wide and lucrative practice—all accomplished by indomitable will, that made the most of his natural talent, and excellent judgment, both native and acquired. Dr. Crotser came to Edmore when there were already eight doctors here, and has outstaid all of them, gaining followers each year as his professional skill became more widely known. He is proprietor of the City Drug Store where first class drugs are compounded and dispensed.

The grandfather of Dr. Crotser, Jacob by name, was born in Bucks County, Pa., and was a farmer. He went from that section to Medina County, Ohio, about 1837, and passed the remnant of his days in the Buckeye State, dying in 1858. His son C. C., father of our subject, was a native of Bucks County also, and was sixteen years old when the family went to Ohio, traveling by team. He remained on the homestead until he was twenty two years old, then engaged in mercantile pursuits at Harrisville. In 1864 he removed to this State and made settle-

ment in Kalamazoo County, at Wakeshma. He bought a farm and mill and combined the occupations of a farmer and miller, and later engaged in the sale of agricultural implements. He is a successful business man, and has a good property, consisting of two hundred and forty acres of land. He has been Township Treasurer for years, votes the Democratic ticket and is an active member of the German Reformed Church. His wife, mother of our subject, was a native of Bucks County, Pa., was known as Barbara Kulp and was a daughter of Samuel Kulp, an early settler in Ohio and a Pennsylvanian by birth. She breathed her last in January, 1878, leaving two sons—A. F., now living at the old home and L. S., the subject of this record.

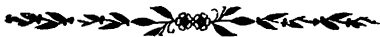
Dr. Crotser was born in Medina County, Ohio, June 8, 1858, and was six years old when he accompanied his parents to this State. He grew toward manhood on a farm and was early set to work at such tasks as all farmers' sons learn, and pursued his studies in the district school until he had entered his teens. He then became a pupil in the Union City school and attended there nearly three years, after which he gave the winter months to teaching for five years. He began his professional career when but sixteen years old, but young as he was, succeeded well and took pains to increase his efficiency by careful thought and continued study. At the age of seventeen he took up the Normal Teachers' Course in Ypsilanti, and was graduated in 1879, after having paid most of his own expenses in college.

In the fall of 1880 Dr. Crotser entered the medical department of the State University at Ann Arbor and was graduated in the first three-years class that received diplomas in 1883. The class numbered one hundred and seventeen members and our subject was among the ten of highest standing. He at once located in Edmore and set himself to make a reputable name and win subsistence in the line of life he had chosen. His skill was soon demonstrated and his deep sympathy in the sufferings of those to whom he was called to minister, together with his evident interest in the advancement of the section in all true growth, added to his reputation, and the passing years brought him a practice that grew lucrative and extended. Dr. Crotser

was \$1,000 in debt when he located for practice, but he was economical and prudent and ere long was relieved of the incubus and felt free to make other uses of his savings. In 1885 he bought the drug stock of D. O. Long and has continued the business.

The pleasant home of Dr. Crotser is presided over by a capable housewife, educated, refined and noble. The lady who possesses these qualities was known in her maidenhood as Miss Della Bunn. She was born in Athens, Calhoun County, and is a daughter of George and Hannab (Fear) Bunn, who are identified with the agricultural class there. She was educated in the town school and taught with success five years. Dr. and Mrs. Crotser have an adopted daughter—Marguerite.

The Doctor has been Village Trustee and is now Clerk of Home Township. He always casts a Republican ballot, having a firm trust in the principles of the party. His social nature leads him to take much interest in the prominent orders and he is connected with the following lodges: Edmore, I. O. O. F.; Wakeshma, No. 254, F. & A. M.; Stanton, R. A. M.; Edmore Council and Edmore, K. O. T. M. He has passed the chairs in the first named and is Examiner in the last. He is examining physician for various insurance companies and is Health Officer of Edmore. He belongs to the State Medical Society and the Northern Michigan Medical Association. His nature is essentially liberal and openhearted, and he is ready to aid in every good work and give support to that which will elevate humanity. He is universally liked as a man and citizen.



JESSE S. HOLCOMB, a veteran of the War of the Rebellion, was born in Macomb County, Mich., December 25, 1844, and has always retained his residence in the Wolverine State. He is the son of Benoni and Lucy Ann (Wedge) Holcomb, both living in Ionia County, while he makes his home in Sidney Township, Montcalm County. When our subject was three years old, his father removed to Ionia County.

Here the boy remained until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he gained the consent of his parents to join the army, and enlisted in Company D, Twenty first Michigan Infantry. He was sent to Kentucky and was attached to Gen. Grant's army under Col. Stevens, of Saranac, Mich. His principal engagements were at Perryville, Ky., Luverne, Tenn., Steward Creek, Stone River, Tullahoma, Tenn., Elk River, Chickamauga, Chancellorsville, Brown's Ferry, Mission Ridge, Savannah, Ga., and Averysboro and Bentonville, N. C.

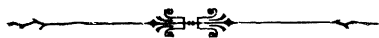
Our young soldier was mustered out of the service at Detroit, June 8, 1865, and at once returned to Ionia County where he engaged in farming, but four years later he decided to sell out his property there, and removed to Montcalm County, where he has made his permanent home. He settled first at Stanton, and entered the grocery business, but he did not like this indoor life, and began teaming. He served for awhile as police officer, and at different times was in the ice business, and had charge of the city sprinkler, sprinkling the streets of the town.

But farming at last claimed the services of Mr. Holcomb, and in 1883 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of choice land within one mile of Stanton, and undertook its cultivation. The spring after he returned from the war he took to himself a wife, Mary Ann Clifford, of Ionia County, to whom he was united May 27, 1866. Their three children are as follows: Benoni, born March 27, 1867; Samuel O. W., July 12, 1868; William H., April 16, 1870. These sons are all living, and are doing well, the two eldest having engaged in business for themselves.

In politics our subject is a Republican. He has acted as Constable several times, and is Alderman in one of the wards of Stanton. His advantages for an education were very poor, and realizing this he with commendable foresight attended school the season after his return from the war. He has given to his children what he missed in his own boyhood, good advantages for education.

About four years ago Mr. Holcomb came near meeting his death by the attack of a ferocious bull. His chest was crushed and many bones broken, and he was confined to his bed for four months, but

strange to relate he recovered, and has gained his former good health. His well-improved farm near the city, and the houses and lots which he owns in Stanton, attest his industry and enterprise. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, and is Past Sir Knight of the order.



WILLIAMS S. WHITTLESEY, Clerk of Montcalm County, was born in Livingston County, N. Y., July 6, 1846. He is a son of William and Clarissa (Sanford) Whittlesey who were likewise natives of the Empire State; the father is a farmer. The son obtained a thorough common school education, and coming to Michigan entered upon a course of legal study and was graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan in 1869. Two years later he established himself in Big Rapids and began the practice of his profession. After six years of residence there he removed to Lowell, Kent County, and in 1878 established himself in Edmore, Montcalm County.

Mr. Whittlesey rapidly made friends and ere long was elected President of Edmore Village, and he also served as Supervisor three years. In 1886 the Republicans nominated him by acclamation for the office of County Clerk and in November following he was elected. With such fidelity did he serve that he was again nominated by acclamation in 1890 and re-elected. He is not only careful and efficient in keeping his records and looking after his official duties, but he is genial in his intercourse with all who have occasion to visit the office as well as with those whom he meets in a social way.

In 1869 Mr. Whittlesey was united in marriage with Miss Sarah G. Tidd, a native of New York State. The marriage has been blessed by the birth of two children—Stephen T. and William S., Jr. The latter, who is now sixteen years old, is pursuing his studies in the High School at Stanton. The parents met with a sad affliction in the death of their first-born, who was drowned in Nevins Lake, July 4, 1890. The family were not alone in their

sorrow, as the young man was a general favorite with both old and young, those of mature years recognizing the worth of his character and the promise of his future.

Stephen Whittlesey was born December 8, 1873, and possessed those qualities which lead to the highest success—singleness and definiteness of aim and the capacity and susceptibility to receive aid from without and above. He showed that individuality of character, self-reliance and ambition to excel which gave promise of a noble, useful life, and his actions were in harmony with all the good forces and powers about him. The close companion and friend of his father, he was at the same time an active and generous participant in the pleasures of his young associates. As a member of the High School class of '91 and President of the Christian Endeavor Society of the Congregational Church, he inspired the young to better deeds and to greater efforts for advancement.

Mr. Whittlesey is identified with the Odd Fellows order, and the Republican party has no stancher adherent than he. He and his wife belong to the Congregational Church and have excellent standing among its members and the genuine respect of those who know their character.



LEWIS NEY OLMSTED is one of the young men who, being natives of Michigan, have been familiar from their earliest recollections with the history of their State, and whose social and material development has progressed side by side with that of their native county. Mr. Olmsted who resides on section 1, Ionia Township, Ionia County was born in North Plains Township, January 12, 1852. His parents, Jay and Anstrus (Case) Olmsted, were both natives of New York State where they were married and whence they came to Michigan in 1836. Our subject was the youngest of their four children and his first and only schooling was received in the district schools of his native place.

Jay Olmsted died when Lewis was but twelve

years old and the boy started out for himself at the early age of sixteen years. He then commenced to build and to cultivate on the land where he now resides. He chose for his partner in life Lizzie Hayes, a native of Michigan. They were married October 10, 1871. She is the eldest daughter of George and Frances (Stone) Hayes and was born in Ionia County, October 10, 1855.

Mr. Olmsted had made many improvements on his farm before he took his bride there to live, so that he was able to settle there without undergoing so many hardships as some had to encounter. Three children were sent to this home: George Ney, and Ernest P., deceased, and Emanuel M. Two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land formed the home farm, and Mr. Olmsted owns two hundred and eighty-five acres more in Lyons Township. He makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle. He has about fifty head of cattle on the farm, one hundred head of sheep and a corresponding number of other stock. A handsome two-story frame house forms the home, and first-class barns show indications of a careful hand and a wise farmer. He was at one time a candidate on the Democratic ticket for State Representative. He is a Mason and was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.



JAMES E. COOLEY is recognized as one of the foremost farmers of Odessa Township, Ionia County. Although he has not lived in the county as long as many of its citizens, yet his farm will compare favorably with those of men who have been here for forty years. The tilled land is carefully handled and its productiveness retained to the highest degree, and every necessary building has been put up on the farm, to which a fine orchard adds further beauty and desirableness. The dwelling now occupied by the family was built in 1890 and is large and commodious and furnished with an eye to the comfort of its inmates. Among the outbuildings the barn is conspicuous as first class in design and construction. A view of the residence and pleasant rural

surroundings appears on another page of this volume.

The parents of our subject, William and Ann Maria (Dove) Cooley, were born in Maryland and were descended from English ancestors. The father served his country in the War of 1812, after which he was engaged in farming in his native State until 1832, when he was called from time to eternity. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his widow is identified with the same religious body. She has now reached the venerable age of eighty-seven years and retains her faculties in an unusual degree. She has five children, named respectively; William T., John, Benjamin, Mary Ann and James E.

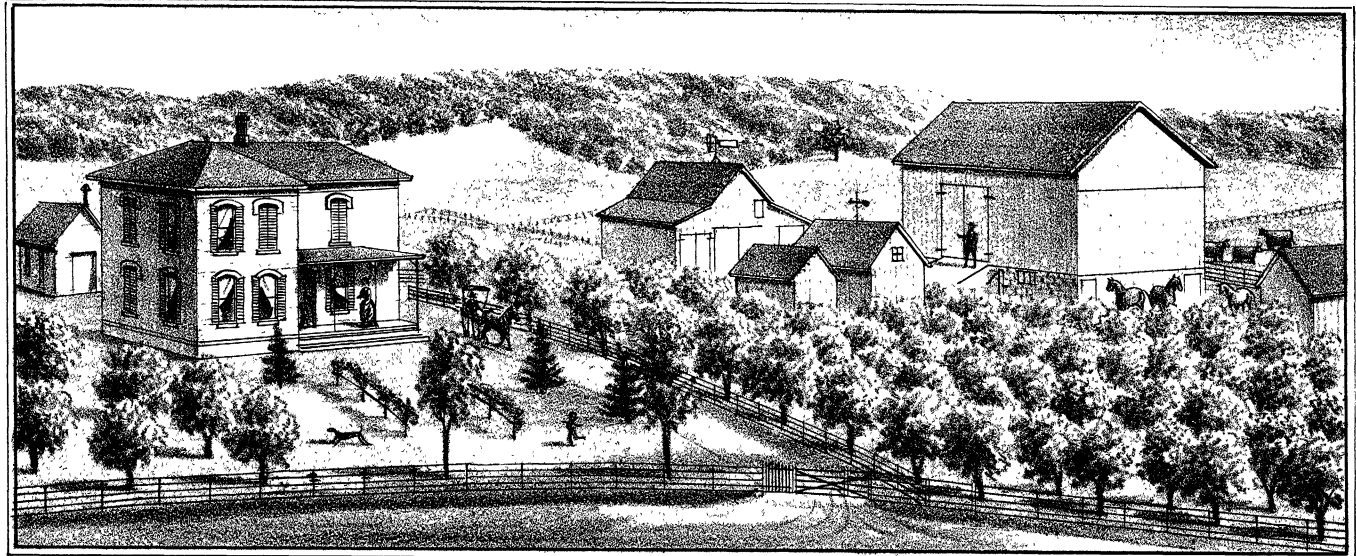
The birth of James E. Cooley took place in Maryland, January 8, 1832, five days after his father had departed this life. The child was two years old when the mother removed to Ohio and there he remained with her until he was seven. He then went to live with a man with whom he remained eleven years, during which time he received a common-school education in a district school. He accompanied Mr. Owens to Noble County, Ind., when he was sixteen, and two years later left him and returned to Ohio and worked out in Williams County three years.

In 1854 Mr. Cooley came to Ionia County and bought land where he is now living. His purchase was of two hundred acres of heavily timbered land upon which no attempts at cultivation had been made. He secured board near by and for two years busied himself in chopping and clearing and then, being taken sick, returned to his Ohio home. He remained in the Buckeye State about eleven years, devoting his time to farming as soon as he recovered from his illness. He then sold out his interests there and went to Colorado, where he was engaged in mining about two years. Returning to the Buckeye State he pursued agriculture there five years, and then in 1872 made a permanent settlement on his Michigan land.

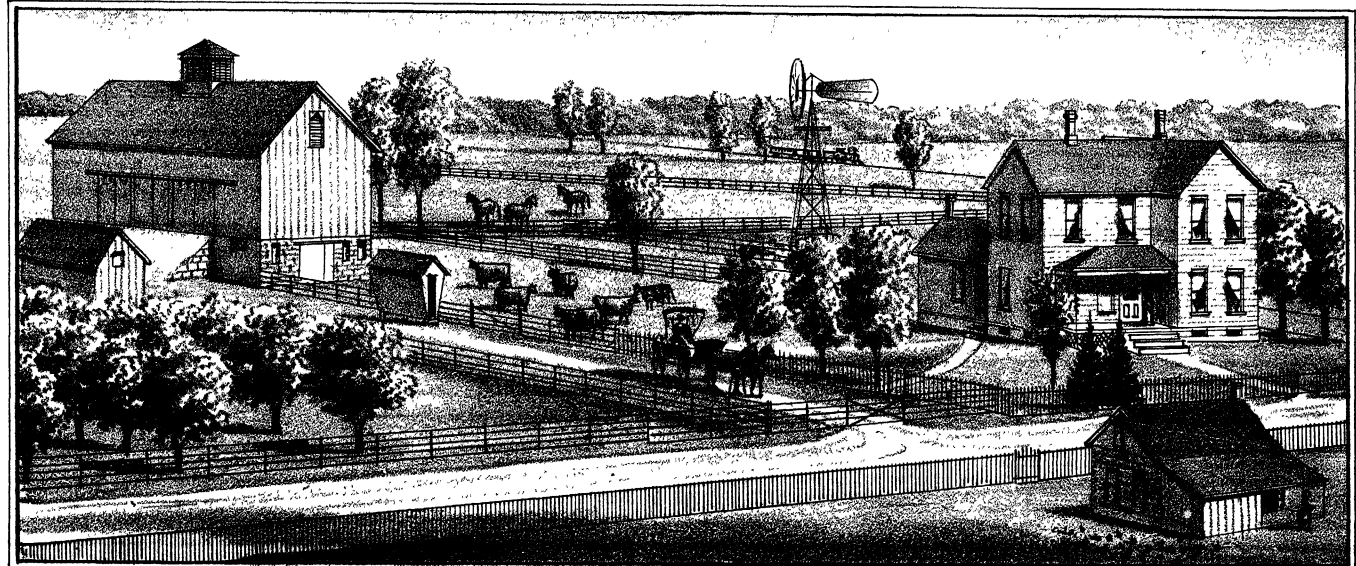
Mr. Cooley put up a log house, in which he lived while carrying on the work of improvement, each year seeing a larger extent of cleared land and better crops. Some time after purchasing the property he sold eighty acres, so that the estate now



RESIDENCE OF J. C. ENGLISH, SEC. 31. BOSTON TP. IONIA CO. MICH.



RESIDENCE OF OLIVER HOOVER, SEC. 32. KEENE TP. IONIA CO. MICH.



RESIDENCE OF J. E. COOLEY, SEC. 20. ODESSA TP. IONIA CO. MICH.

consists of but one hundred and twenty. He has ninety acres under excellent tillage, and taken as a whole, the estate is one of which he may well be proud, particularly as its possession is due entirely to his own exertions and good management.

For a number of years Mr. Cooley has had the aid and encouragement of a capable wife, who in her own department of their affairs has shown wisdom and ability. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Shock and became Mrs. Cooley November 29, 1859. She has had five children, but two only are now living—Orris H. and George B. She is well known throughout the community and like her husband is held in high esteem by their acquaintances. Mr. Cooley has been a lifelong supporter of the Democratic party. His religious membership is in the Free Will Baptist Church.



JUDE C. ENGLISH. Many changes have taken place in Ionia County since this gentleman came hither and the retrospect of the years that have passed affords him much pleasure, together with sad thoughts of the sorrows he has felt and the losses he has suffered. The old comrades do not now gather as they once did, as many of them have gone to another world, leaving their places to be filled by their descendants, or a new influx of emigrants. Mr. English looks back to the time when there were but twenty-four voters in Campbell and Boston Townships, two houses in Saranac, and Ionia was but a hamlet. Indians could be seen any day, and all kinds of wild fowl and much larger game haunted the forests. It was the custom of the settlers to assemble in the fall for a big bear hunt.

The birthplace of Mr. English was Tunbridge, Orange County, Vt., and his natal day March 26, 1833. His parents, Edson and Abigail (Willard) English, were born in the Green Mountain State and both were of Scotch blood. The father was a farmer and followed his calling in his native State until 1840, when he came hither and located on

section 21, Boston Township. Here he continued his work as long as his strength would permit. He died May 20, 1883, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife survived a few years, reaching the venerable age of ninety-one and passing away December 31, 1890. Both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their family included seven children, the survivors being Elizabeth, widow of Herman Hunt who died in the army; James F., whose home is on section 28, Boston Township; Annette, wife of Reuben H. Smith whose home is in Grand Rapids; our subject; and David H., who occupies the homestead.

It will be seen that Mr. English was but seven years old when he came to Ionia County. His early education was received in the district school and he spent one term at Albion College. In 1854 he bought eighty acres of land on section 31, Boston Township, and four years later he took possession of the property. He had previously been working on the place in the summer months and spending the winters in teaching. When he gave his entire attention to his farm he had removed much of the timber and underbrush which originally covered it, as he had gone to work with a will, and understood what he was doing, having helped his father in similar work. A hard-working man, prudent in management and thrifty in his habits, he has steadily worked his way, adding to his original purchase and clearing and improving all.

During the Border Ruffian War of Kansas in 1856, a movement was set on foot to raise money in each school district to aid in making Kansas a free-soil State, and our subject took quite an interest in the matter. He succeeded in raising over \$17, the largest amount secured in his township. Anything that could be converted into cash was taken, such as corn, oats, etc., and our subject takes just pride in the fact that his mite helped in the good cause.

The land of Mr. English has been brought to a high state of development, is well-improved and stocked with good grades of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. Mr. English now occupies a farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres, on which he built a large two-story brick dwelling in 1880. He also put up an ample barn. He then deeded the orig-

nal homestead to his son, Charles S., who married Mary Roger. Mr. English used to trap a good deal, selling fox and mink hides. What he has accomplished in the way of building up a home and securing a competence has been due to his own efforts and those of his wife, who was faithful over the interests committed to her care and ever encouraged him by her cheerfulness and love. Looking back over the rough road they have traveled together, they rejoice in the fact that they have succeeded in a high sense, winning esteem as well as filthy lucre.

Mr. English helped to organize the Grange in 1873 and has been an active promoter of its success. He has been Purchasing Agent since the organization was perfected. He has served as School Trustee, but has no inclination for any other position of public responsibility. Politically, he is a true Republican. His means are freely expended for the building up of Boston Township and the advancement of Ionia County. His wife bore the maiden name of Persis A. Stannard which she changed for that she now bears April 28, 1858. They have had two children but the son before mentioned is the only one living. Ernest died when a child of three and a half years.



OLIVER HOOVER. To one who is keenly observant of the agricultural districts of Ionia County it would seem that Keene Township has an unusual number of German-American citizens. Many of her most prominent farmers were born and reared in the Fatherland, and there acquired the good principles and industrious and thrifty habits that have made them successful in the home they chose after growing to manhood. Beginning their career in America with little or no cash capital, they have worked their way to positions of comfort and competence by the exercise of their natural abilities and the sterling ways to which they were reared. One of this class was Oliver Hoover, whose home is on section

32, and whose life and character are the subject of the following paragraphs.

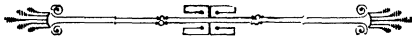
The parents of the gentleman above named were Lawrence and Mary Hoover, whose birthplace was the Grand Duchy of Baden, where his eyes were also opened to the light June 24, 1825. He was fairly educated under the school system that insures a practical education to the sons of the Fatherland, and since he came to the United States has become quite well acquainted with English. He crossed the Atlantic in 1854, leaving Havre on a sailing-vessel and being forty-six days on the ocean. After landing in New York he went to the Province of Ontario, Canada, where he remained until 1857. That year he came to this State, and choosing Ionia County as the scene of his labors, settled on section 18, Campbell Township. He operated on a farm there until the spring of 1858, and then took possession of that on which he is now living. His first dwelling here was a log shanty, but after a few years it was supplanted by a better house, and in 1877 a fine brick residence was put up. A few acres of the land had been partially cleared, but the major portion of the work necessary to bring the estate to its present condition was performed by Mr. Hoover himself. His farm consists of one hundred and twenty acres and is the source of an excellent income.

For thirty years the joys and sorrows, the labors and successes of Mr. Hoover have been shared in by a good wife, with whom he was united May 11, 1861. She was born in Bavaria, Germany, October 26, 1840, and bore the maiden name of Catharine Schoppey, being a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Schoppey. Mrs. Hoover came to America in 1854. Her marriage has been blessed with the birth of nine children, but only four are spared to brighten the parental home. These are Caroline, Frank, John and Ollie.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover take an active part in the social affairs of their neighborhood and are connected with the Roman Catholic Church at Lowell. Mr. Hoover gives his political allegiance to the Democratic party and never fails to deposit his vote in behalf of its candidates. The entire family are respected by their associates and display an

interest in American institutions, particularly in the schools, and are ever ready, wherever it is possible, to advance the interests of the community by their participation in the projects which promise that result.

On another page of the ALBUM the readers will notice a view of the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Hoover.



WILLIAM S. STORY, an old settler of Ionia County, resides on section 19, Boston Township, and carries on general farming and stock-raising. He was born in Lester, Livingston County, N. Y., January 18, 1819. He is a son of Urias and Lucretia (Smith) Story. The father was a native of New Hampshire and of Scotch descent. The mother was born in Connecticut. They followed farming most of their lives and came West with their son, and resided with him until their death. The father died in April, 1861, his wife having preceded him to the other world in August, 1859. Both of them were members of the Congregational Church, and were conscientious and useful in their church relations. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are now living, namely: Lyman, Betsey, Caroline M., William S., Sarah C., George D., Armina A.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared on a farm in Livingston County, N. Y., where he received his education in the district schools. He continued to reside with his parents until 1848 when he came to Michigan and located in Boston Township, Ionia County, taking charge of one hundred and twenty acres of land where he now resides, which had been purchased by William P. Brown in 1838. Renting a farm near his own land he worked that for two years and in the meanwhile built a log house on his own place. In the spring of 1850 he moved onto his own farm, which was in a wild state and went to work chopping timber and clearing brush. Year by year he cleared more and cultivated what he had free from trees, and now has it all under a good state of cultivation and well improved. He has always carried a

good grade of stock of various kinds, making a specialty of Merino and Shropshire sheep.

Mr. Story has been an interested observer of and helper in all the changes that have taken place in the county from its first beginnings. He has ever been a public-spirited man, contributing liberally, according to his ability, to all enterprises looking to the welfare of the community in which he resides. He has hunted deer on land that is now in a high state of cultivation, and has seen the Indian and his wigwam supplanted by prosperous villages and white people of intelligence and culture. He is in politics a Republican. He has held the office of Supervisor one term, also that of Road Commissioner, and is a charter member of the Grange.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage with Harriet Harris, of New Haven, Vt., in October, 1844. They have two children living: Catherine H., wife of Levi Fletcher, who resides on the homestead; Jessie E., wife of Gates L. Stannard, who resides in Boston Township. The good mother of these children was called to her final rest December 15, 1884. Mr. Story still resides with his daughter Catherine on the homestead, where he hopes to spend the remainder of his days.



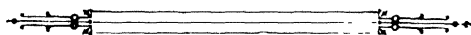
DANIEL J. MATTISON. Among the owners of large farms in Ionia County none are better deserving of mention in a volume of this nature than Mr. Mattison, whose enterprise in carrying on his work and good citizenship and character entitle him to respect. His residence is on section 35, Ronald Township, and his estate consists of three hundred acres, all under cultivation. Flocks and herds of goodly size and first-class breeds roam over the pastures, among them being one hundred and sixty head of sheep. Everywhere on the place one can see the evidences of prosperity and it is manifest that the owner of this property makes of his occupation both an art and a science.

Mr. Mattison is the youngest son of Allen J. and Lucy (Thomas) Mattison, of whom more extended notice is given in the biography of William H. Mattison on another page. He was born in Rens-

selaer County, N. Y., February 12, 1841, and received his education in the district schools near his home. He continued to reside in his native State until 1870 when he came to Michigan and located where he is now living. He had been married some three years before, but with his wife had a place in the parental household, and upon coming West he was accompanied by his father and mother. His mother, who has been a widow for several years, is still with him on the homestead and is now of venerable age. Since he came to this State Mr. Mattison has worked on the homestead.

The marriage of Mr. Mattison and Miss Carrie S. Cranston was solemnized at the bride's home in New York, November 21, 1866. Mrs. Mattison was born in Stephentown Township, Rensselaer County, November 10, 1846, and received her early training and education there. She is the fourth of nine children born to Henry R. and Phœbe (Mattison) Cranston, who were likewise natives of the Empire State. She belongs to the Baptist Church and is an earnest, conscientious Christian, whose constant aim it is to discharge every duty which lies before her. Mr. and Mrs. Mattison have two sons—Harry A., born in 1869 and Charles H. in 1883. The elder is now attending school in Ann Arbor.

Mr. Mattison is a supporter of Republican principles. Before his removal to this State he served as Township Assessor at his old home. He occupies a place in the front rank of farmers of Ronald Township and has an acquaintance which includes a large number of sincere friends.



JACOB J. HATINGER is one of the most active business men of Montcalm County. He is a manufacturer of shingles and lumber, having a fine mill located on section 2, Belvidere Township, although he makes his home in Day Township, where he has a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres on section 2. His father, John, was a farmer in Wurtemberg, Germany, whence he emigrated soon after his marriage to Catherine Eitelbuss, a sister of J. J. Eitelbuss in

whose biographical sketch her ancestry will be found. When in about 1853 Mr. John Hatinger first came to America he located in Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, this State, on a farm and remained there until his death at the age of forty-five years.

The subject of this sketch was the second child of his parents and was born December 27, 1855, at Northfield, Washtenaw County. Here he grew up on a farm and after his father's death, at eight years of age was greatly depended upon by his mother in the management of the farm. When fourteen years old he came to Montcalm County. He engaged in lumbering in the winter and worked on the farm in summer until he was twenty-one years of age, and his time and wages during this time went for the benefit of the family and he finally drifted into the manufacture of shingles in Ferris and Day Townships. He successfully ran a mill on Fish Creek, Ferris Township, then in Evergreen Township. In January, 1890, he started the present mill in Belvidere Township with a capacity of forty-five thousand shingles per day. Here he is doing a fine business. His farm is in a splendidly-cultivated condition and his handsome residence, large and commodious outbuildings and the general appearance of the farm are creditable in the extreme. He engages in general farming and stock-raising and feeds for market about one carload of cattle each year. He makes a specialty of graded Short-Horn cattle, and keeps excellent stock in hogs and sheep. His greatest interest upon the farm however, is in raising fine horses. He owns the fastest pacer in the State of Michigan, "Benson H.," sired by Lewis Napoleon, record 2:25½. He has paced the one quarter mile in thirty-one seconds which is at the rate of 2:04 gait. He also owns "Nettie H.," sired by "Sweepstakes." She has a record of 2:40 as a trotter.

Mr. Hatinger began in 1878 with an eventful celebration, that of his marriage to Agnes, daughter of Thomas Morse. This lady was born in Ann Arbor of one of the early families in that county. Her father was a farmer from New York and her mother, whose maiden name was Catherine Sabin, was born in Germany. In 1855 the Morse family located in Portland Township, Ionia County, this

State, where they cleared and improved a farm and resided until the death of Mr. Morse. His wife, who survives him, resides at the old place. Mrs. Hatinger is one of six surviving children. Much of her childhood and school days were spent in Ionia County, although her older girlhood she passed in Ann Arbor. She is the mother of four children, one of whom, Jesse, died in infancy. The surviving children are Ernest, Earl and Leon. Mr. Hatinger is a prominent Republican and votes the straight ticket on all occasions.



ALBERT B. GRANT, M. D. The medical profession is well represented in Ionia and by men who in theoretical knowledge, practical skill and professional zeal would stand on a par with those in any of our cities. Among this number is Dr. Grant, who has a large and constantly-increasing practice. He does not look upon his profession as a book that, being read, is to be laid aside but as something of the nature of natural science, needing constant watchfulness and continued investigation in order that no phenomena may escape notice and no possible good result be missed. He continues to study both books and men and is watchful of the welfare of his patients.

The family from which Dr. Grant traces his descent is prominent in Germany and is entitled to a coat-of-arms. The foreign spelling of the patronymic is Krauntz and was changed during Colonial times, when Marks Krauntz, grandfather of our subject, entered the Colonial army. That gentleman had emigrated from Germany a short time before the struggle for independence and located in the Mohawk Valley. By some misunderstanding his name was entered on the enlistment and pay rolls of the Revolutionary army as Grants and he adopted that cognomen, which is retained by his descendants in the East. Grandfather Marks Grants came from Germany when he was seven years old and died May 17, 1841, aged seventy-nine years. Catherine, his wife, died Sep-

tember 13, 1857, aged eighty-three years and six months. Marks Grants received from Gen. Washington a medal for bravery during the Revolutionary War. The medal is still preserved by his relatives. His son David, who came to this State in 1853, dropped the final "s".

David Grant was married in his native State to Miss Phiana P. Wilcox March 24, 1831, who was also born in New York, and who was a descendant of John Rogers, the martyr. She was a daughter of Heman and Naomi (Rogers) Wilcox. Upon their removal hither Mr. and Mrs. Grant located in Jackson County, where the husband died March 7, 1873. Mrs. Grant survived until October 4, 1889, and breathed her last at Lowell. Their family included seven children, five of whom are living and the subject of our sketch is the youngest.

Dr. Grant was born in Columbia, Herkimer County, N. Y., June 15, 1849, and was therefore but a child when he obtained his first knowledge of this State. He received a common-school education which was sufficiently thorough to fit him for teaching, and he took charge of schools in Jackson County. Having determined to make medicine his calling, he did some preliminary reading and then entered a college at Cleveland, Ohio, and later the Detroit (Mich.) Homeopathic College, and holds a certificate from the Chicago Polyclinic Abdominal and Pelvic Surgery, and is also a member of the American Obstretrical Association and American Association of Orificial Surgeons. His favorite study is surgery and electricity in nervous and chronic diseases. From the Detroit College he was graduated in 1875, and he at once located for practice at Muir and Lyons, Ionia County. He remained there until October, 1878, when he succeeded Dr. Amos Walker at Lowell. While in Lowell he held the offices of Health Officer and President of the School Board. In 1885 he removed to Ionia, to which place his reputation had preceded him.

The lady who presides over the household affairs in the elegant residence of Dr. Grant bore the maiden name of Ada C. Fellows and became his wife November 19, 1873. Her parents were John A. and Jeanette L. (Emory) Fellows, natives

of New York and Vermont respectively, and early settlers in Jackson County, this State. Mr. Fellows was of Welsh extraction and came of a long-lived family, and he himself reached the age of four-score. The date of his decease was March 13, 1890. One of the ancestors of Mrs. Grant was the Rev. Adiel Sherwood. Dr. and Mrs. Grant have two sons—Burdette F. and Heman Emory, who are receiving every possible opportunity to improve their minds and prepare themselves for future duties.

Dr. Grant is much interested in the social orders and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having attained to the rank of Sir Knight; the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Grange lodges. He was Corresponding Secretary of the Homœopathic Medical Society four years and in 1885-86 was its President. He was a member of the Board of Examiners for Pensions during President Arthur's administration, was deposed for offensive partisanship by President Cleveland, but was reinstated by President Harrison, and now presides over that body. It will be understood from the above that he is a Republican and that none are long in doubt as to his opinions on political questions. He and his wife belong to the Congregational Church. Dr. Grant is possessed of the manners of a true gentleman, and at the gatherings of the best circles his presence and that of his wife is sought.



DE ELBERT A. REYNOLDS. Among the pushing, energetic, successful business men of Lyons, Ionia County, is the subject of this biographical notice. Mr. Reynolds came to Lyons with his family in 1881 on account of its excellent railroad facilities, he being at that time engaged as a traveling salesman in Michigan. In the summer of 1882, the Grand River *Echo*, published at Lyons, suspended publication, and in September, of the same year, the Muir *Vidette* met a like fate. Mr. Reynolds, in company with W. D. Pennington, Jr., bought the two plants, put in a quantity of new material and the necessary energy, launching the Lyons *Herald* in October, of the same year. From that time the business has con-

tinued to grow until at this writing Mr. Reynolds is sole owner of one of the best newspapers and job printing offices in Central Michigan, from which is issued the *Patrons' Guide*. The current issue of this paper is a little over ninety-three thousand copies, while it carries a pay-roll of over twenty men and women.

Personally Mr. Reynolds is conservative, prudent and sagacious; editorially he is fearless, non-partisan, and the terror of tricksters, political or social rings. Born in Isabella County in 1854, he modestly claims the distinction of being the first child born of white parents in that then Indian reservation, and his education was such as could be obtained among the Aborigines. Young Reynolds spent his time in driving the cows to pasture and watching the hopper in his father's gristmill; naturally inclined to literary pursuits he also devoted considerable attention to the study of history, books of travel and current newspaper literature. Upon the death of his father in 1870, he went to Maple Rapids, where he finished his trade as a miller, but was soon taken with a protracted illness that kept his lungs in a very delicate condition and almost undermined his entire constitution.

Turning his attention to the classics Mr. Reynolds soon fitted himself for teaching, which vocation he followed for eight winters, devoting his time during the summer months to the subduing of a small farm in Clinton County, and incidentally becoming strong and healthy. During the years spent on the farm he gave to the literary world some very choice productions, which have won for him a reputation as a writer, in which his friends take a very commendable pride. The last eight years of his life have found his leisure hours employed in securing the data for what will be the crowning effort of his literary career.

Mr. Reynolds is the only son of John and Catherine Reynolds, of old Puritan stock; the former died in 1870, and the wife survived but two years. The other members of the family are: Mrs. Delia Davis, Mrs. Harriet Mullins and Mrs. Katie Helm. Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage in 1874 with Miss Seruah Vincent, and two sons—Egbert A. and Loyal W., have come to bless the union.

Since the above sketch was written Mr. Rey-

nolds has removed his printing business to the State Capital, Lansing, where in addition to his other business he has launched the *Michigan Statesman* in the interest of the new political party known as the Peoples' party. His residence, office building and other property interests he still retains in Lyons.



FRANK R. CHASE, a dealer in real estate and a farmer on section 21, Otisco Township, made his first entry into Ionia County in 1844 when a child five years old. He was born in Napoleon, Jackson County, Mich., August 12, 1839, but with the exception of a few years his life has been spent in the county with whose interests he is now identified. He gave his time and strength to the Union cause from August 10, 1862, until September, 1868, and for a short time was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Illinois. He owns a tract of land comprising some five hundred acres and carries on quite extensive farming operations.

The grandfather of our subject was Elisha Chase, a native of Vermont, who came to this State in 1850 to make his home with his son, Norman G. He was a Sheriff in his native State, and during the Black Hawk War was a soldier. The son mentioned was born in the Green Mountain State, whence he removed to Connecticut, thence to New York and thence to Michigan and finally located in Smyrna in 1844, which was his permanent residence. He was a minister of the Gospel but in his new home he engaged in mercantile pursuits, beginning with a capital of \$150. He followed the business until 1863, and was so successful in that and other work that he left a property valued at about \$6,000, after having given \$40,000 to benevolent purposes. His death occurred in 1884 at the age of eighty-two years, and his estate was willed to benevolent institutions. He was Postmaster in Smyrna for many years, having been the first to hold that office. He was Township Clerk and was a school officer during a long term of years.

Norman Chase was married in New York to Lucinda Carroll, who was born in Connecticut and

whose parents were John and Hannah (Thayer) Carroll, also natives of that State. John Carroll was a cousin of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Our subject is distantly related in the paternal line to another signer, Samuel Chase. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Norman G. Chase were four in number, three of whom died in infancy. The mother entered into rest in 1868.

Mr. Chase, the subject of this notice, received his fundamental education in the common schools and increased his store of knowledge by attending school in Lansing and Kalamazoo each one year. He also took a commercial course in the latter city. When a young man of eighteen years he began teaching, but followed that work only two terms. When of age he was taken into partnership with his father, with whom he continued in business until his enlistment in Company B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, with which he went to the field as First Lieutenant. He served with his company and regiment until September, 1863 when, being disabled, he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps and appointed Adjutant of the Eighteenth Regiment.

Lieut. Chase was sent East and participated in Grant's campaign of 1864 from Fredericksburg to City Point, and then joined the forces against Gen. Early, who was making his famous raid on Washington and the Baltimore & Ohio Railway. From December, 1863, Mr. Chase was on staff duty, serving as Adjutant of his regiment, Adjutant-General of the brigade in the field, and doing duty on the staff of Gens. Baird, Gregg, Mower, Sheridan, Wood and Buchanan respectively. After the cessation of hostilities he was ordered to New Orleans, where he remained on duty until his resignation, when he came home with the rank of Major. Re-engaging in business as a merchant Mr. Chase remained in Michigan until 1870, then went to Warsaw, Ill., which was his home for the ensuing two years. He returned to Smyrna in 1873 and here he continues to reside.

Mr. Chase was married in Warsaw, Ill., in 1870, to Hattie E. Flood, an educated and refined young lady who stands side by side with him in the esteem of their acquaintances. She is the daughter

of Gen. Martin Flood, who was born in Massachusetts, but for years resided in Wisconsin and went into the army in 1861 with the Third Wisconsin Infantry. He was a member of the Legislature of that State. His death took place in Warsaw, Ill., in July, 1873. His wife, a native of New York, bore the maiden name of Prudence Darling. Their family included Capt. R. E. Flood, Hattie E., Martin A., Mary A. and Edward E. Mr. and Mrs. Chase have two living children—Dora and Carroll, both at home; and they have lost a daughter, Bertha L., who died at the age of two years.

In politics Mr. Chase is a staunch Republican, but he has never aspired to public honors, being satisfied to do his duty as a private citizen and aid his party in quiet ways. He is high in the Masonic order, having taken the thirtieth degree. He takes an active part in the workings of the Belding Lodge, No. 355, and in the Consistory in which he is enrolled. He is Commander of Dan S. Root Post, No. 126, G. A. R., in Belding. He and his wife belong to the Baptist Church and have high standing in that society.



REV. DAVID E. MILLARD started out in life under the fostering care of a brilliant, cultured and literary ancestor. His father having traveled extensively in the old Continent and possessing a prominent professorship in one of the leading Theological Seminaries of the country, also with merited success acquiring the fame of an author, could by these influences place his son upon a brilliant pedestal which he has utilized as a stepping-stone to his present prominent position.

Two brothers by the names of Robert and Nathaniel Millard came from England to Rehobeth, Mass., about the middle of the seventeenth century. They were Baptists and fled to this country on account of religious persecutions. Robert was a minister of the Gospel and both lived to be aged and died and were buried in Rehobeth. The Rev. Robert Millard had a son Robert, and the latter also had a son who bore the same name and

like his ancestor was a Baptist minister. The third Robert lived to an advanced age and was highly respected. He was twice married, and the father of a large family. Among the children of his second wife, whose maiden name was King, was Eleazar Millard, who removed from Rehobeth, Mass., into Dutchess County, N. Y., and subsequently to Stillwater, Saratoga County, where Nathaniel Millard, grandfather of our subject was born December 13, 1764. The Millard homestead was near the battle ground of Burgoyne's defeat.

Nathaniel, when not quite sixteen years old, enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. At the surrender of Ft. Ann, he was taken prisoner and for several months was held in captivity among the Indians in Canada. In this place he was retaken by the English and with others placed in the prison at Quebec, where by sickness and starvation he nearly ended his days. He was taken to England where he was held in confinement several months, and after a series of hardships he was at length given his freedom and restored to his native land. In 1787 he found a most estimable wife in Mary Hunter, who was born in Antrim, Ireland, August 27, 1767, and who with her family emigrated to this country and settled in Ballston, N. Y., in 1774. The fruits of this marriage were eleven children. Nathaniel Millard was killed August 7, 1829, by falling from a load of hay. He was a good man and died a Christian. His wife survived him a number of years, her death occurring in Rochester, N. Y., July 8, 1850, aged eighty-three years.

David Millard, the father of our subject, was born at Glenville, Schenectady County, N. Y., November 24, 1794. He began to attend school at the early age of four years, but after he was able to perform any kind of farm labor his school days never exceeded three months in each year. Before he was quite seventeen years of age he began to teach school near his childhood's home, in which avocation he was very successful. He was converted to Christ under the preaching of a lady, Nancy G. Cram, whose ministry in Boston and elsewhere was remarkably successful. In 1814 he entered the ministry and preached his first sermon in Amsterdam, N. Y., July 16, 1815, and in March

1816 left his home to engage in the service of God. He promptly took a prominent position as a minister among the able men with whom he associated and labored.

On June 17, 1819, Mr. Millard married Celia Hicks of Taunton, Mass., and having organized a Christian Church in West Bloomfield, N. Y., was for thirty-six years the faithful and prosperous pastor of the church which he had founded. Here he published the *True Messiah* and for three years, from 1825 to 1828, a monthly periodical known as the *Gospel Luminary*. Subsequently Mr. Millard traveled extensively in many States, preaching as he went and was greatly blessed in his labors. In 1841-42 he visited Malta, Egypt, Palestine, the peninsula of Sinai and Arabia Petra. He also spent several weeks in a lazeretto in Smyrna. On his return he published his book of travels which had an extensive sale and received many flattering notices through the press.

In 1844 Mr. Millard was elected Professor of Sacred Geography and Biblical antiquities in the Meadville, Pa., Theological School which he held over twenty years, spending one month each year in lecturing on the above subject. In 1868 David Millard removed to Jackson, Mich., where the subject of this sketch was serving as pastor of a Christian Church. In that place he died, August 7, 1873, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. His was an honorable and faithful life and he left behind him a noble record. He was twice married, his first wife Celia Hicks, dying July 24, 1843. April 24, 1844 he married Elmina L. Belote, who died May 7, 1885, at Lyndon, N. Y., in the seventy-fifth year of her age. Her only son, Channing Millard, lives in Chicago.

David E. Millard was born in West Bloomfield, N. Y., March 16, 1829. His school advantages were of fine order and while at the seminary in 1849 he was deeply impressed with the idea that it was his duty to become a minister, and in the autumn of that year he entered the Theological Seminary at Meadville, Pa., as a student of the ministry. In 1852 he graduated and commenced preaching at once (as supply) in the pulpit of the Franklin Street Church, Fall River, Mass., where he was ordained December 9. His first sermon

was delivered at Springboro, Pa., when a student. The appointment was made without his knowledge, and in vain he tried to beg off. The effort was declared by those who heard it to have been a brilliant one.

Our subject was married April 24, 1854 in Portland, Mich., to Esther E. Andrews, who has proven an excellent and most faithful co-laborer. After serving as pastor of the North Christian Church in New Bedford, Mass., and afterward at West Bloomfield, N. Y., he removed to Michigan December 25, 1857. In this State the labors of both himself and wife have been earnestly and successfully devoted to the Christian cause, as the work at Marshall, Jackson and Belding shows. In 1865 he and his wife filled by appointment of Gov. Crapo and to his entire satisfaction, the office of military agents at Washington, D. C. They have taken the village of Portland, Mich., for their adopted home and here Mr. Millard employs his pen in writing for several papers, religious and secular, and often supplies, to acceptance, the different pulpits of the place. It is most presumable that peace and happiness will flow gently into their remaining years, rounding them out and filling them with the blessings of life.



SIMEON RECTOR. Among those who, during the dark days of the Civil War, offered their services for the defense of the Union and served our country faithfully is Mr. Rector, who is also a pioneer of this State. He came to Michigan in its earliest years and bought land, which he has redeemed from its primitive condition and made to blossom with harvests. Respected by all and prominent in Ionia County, we are pleased to present to our readers a brief outline of his life.

Simeon Rector is a farmer residing on section 14, Easton Township, Ionia County, and is a native of New York. He was born August 30, 1822, and is a son of Teal and Lena Rector, who are said to have been natives of New York. Mr. Rector was reared to manhood in Yates County,

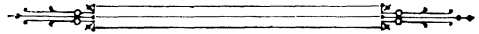
N. Y., and from his early boyhood has been engaged in farming pursuits. He received but the rudiments of an education in his early school days, as at that time the present school advantages were not available. It was his aim, however, to improve his mind and store it with all possible knowledge, and in this way he mainly educated himself.

Mr. Rector was married January 1, 1844, to Hannah Elder, who was born in Orange County, N. Y., April 15, 1820, and is the daughter of John and Penelope (Reynolds) Elder. Her parents were natives of New York and her paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier. When about thirteen years of age Mrs. Rector, with her family, removed to Yates County, and was there reared to maturity and married. Mr. and Mrs. Rector are the parents of two children—George H. and Oscar D. In the spring of 1848, with his family, our subject emigrated to Michigan, coming by the way of the lakes to Detroit, and settled in Oakland County, Mich., where he resided for several years. About the year 1855 he came to Ionia County and settled on a farm, where he now lives, and has been practically a resident here ever since with the exception of the time spent in the service of his country.

Purchasing eighty acres of heavily timbered land, Mr. Rector felled the first trees, and then erected a small rude log cabin, probably about 14x16 feet in size. In this he lived a few years and later on in life built the fine residence where he now resides. When he first came to this county there were no accessible roads, and for six years he was obliged to travel in and out to his farm as best suited his convenience. He and his wife necessarily were obliged to endure the usual hardships subject to pioneer life. He now owns seventy-seven acres of land, and in the accumulation of this property has been ably assisted by his wife, who has been his helpmate and counselor for years.

December 22, 1863, Mr. Rector enlisted in Company E, First Michigan Engineer Corps. His duties in this company were principally to build corduroy and other bridges, tear up railroad tracks and build block houses. He was discharged Sep-

tember 22, 1865. His son George was also in the First Michigan Engineer Corps and served nine months, after which he returned to Ionia County, where he has since remained. Mr. Rector and his estimable wife are esteemed members of the Methodist Church and are among the representative pioneer people of Ionia County, and now on the declining side of life they are enjoying the fruits of their early toil. None are more deserving of a place in this record than this worthy family. It is, therefore, with pleasure that we present the biography of this typical man and his good wife with those of many who have by their hard labor brought Ionia County from its wild state into its present improved condition.



THOMAS A. STEADMAN. A pleasantly located and well-developed farm on section 21, Lyons Township, is the home of Mr. Steadman, who is thoroughly at one with the interests of Ionia County. He gives his attention to general farming, operating seventy-three and a fourth acres of good land, and derives from his estate an income sufficient for his wants. His residence is comfortable and homelike and around it are the various farm buildings, such as every enterprising farmer puts up, and the orchard and garden plats which every well-regulated farm has.

Thomas Steadman, the originator of the family in America, is believed to have crossed the Atlantic on the "Mayflower" and is known to have come from England during a very early period in the history of the Colonies. The same given name has been held by five men in the direct line and Rhode Island was the native State of three of them. The first was a sea captain, the second a farmer and the third a tanner by trade and a Baptist minister by profession. The fourth Thomas Steadman, counting from the English ancestor, was born in Massachusetts but reared in New York, and was a carpenter and joiner by trade. In Orleans County, N. Y., he was married to Sarah Hollenbeck, a native of the Empire State, and there they lived until 1857-58. They came to this State and made their

home in Bloomingdale Township, Van Buren County. The husband died there in 1864. The widow survived until 1890 and breathed her last when seventy-seven years old. The family born to this good couple consisted of the following children, Thomas A. being the first-born. His brothers and sisters are Sarah M., John J., Herbert L., Alvira, Mary A., Alice and Ellen. John gave his life for his country, being killed during the late war and Herbert also took up arms in defense of the flag.

Thomas A. Steadman was born in Orleans County N. Y., January 13, 1832. His first schooling was obtained in the home district and he finished his education in the academy at Holley. He then learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, which he followed industriously until the breaking out of the Civil War aroused him from his peaceful occupation and made him anxious to fight for his country. In 1861 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifth New York Infantry and was sworn in as a private in Company C, but was promoted to a Captaincy, October 13, 1862. The chief battles in which he participated were Cedar Mountain, the second Bull Run, South Mountain, and Rappahannock Station. But these were not the only occasions on which he led his men into danger or encouraged them to valorous deeds. At Belle Plain where the command went into camp, the regiment was consolidated with another and the senior officers were retained. Capt. Steadman, who was the youngest Captain in the regiment, was honorably discharged March 17, 1863, and returned to his former home in New York.

For a time Mr. Steadman was employed in the reaper works at Albion, N. Y., but in September, 1863, he determined to make a home in Michigan and coming to this State he selected a location on which he now lives. While carrying on his farm work with sufficient zeal to make it profitable he has found time to act as public servant in official capacities to which he has been elected, to show considerable activity in social organizations, and make out crop reports for papers for which he corresponds. He has been Justice of the Peace and School Director, and has discharged the duties of the offices in a creditable manner. He was Presi-

dent of the Farmer's Protective Society, and is now President of the New York Soldiers' and Sailors' Association of Central Michigan, and for two years has been its officer of the day.

Mr. Steadman is past Commander of the Grand Army Post in Lyons and has held all the offices in Lyons Lodge, No. 7, A. F. & A. M. He was President of the Patrons of Industry lodge and is now the presiding officer of township organization. In politics he is quite prominent, is a strong tariff man and votes with the Republican party. His reputation is good and his friends are numerous. In the Empire State, July 4, 1852, Mr. Steadman was married to Miss Marie Pierce who was born in Orleans County, April 27, 1832; she is the fourth of six children who made the family of Aurelius and Matilda (Steadman) Pierce. Her father was born in Vermont and her mother in Massachusetts and both died in Orleans County, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Steadman have had four children, two of whom died in infancy—Eugene and Louisa. The survivors are Thomas P., a banker in Elsie, this State, and George H., who makes his home with his parents and is teaching school.



ISAAC B. HAYNOR. In the history of Ionia County the gentleman whose name introduces this record takes one of the most prominent positions in the list of pioneers. Many men in order to make from the rugged wilds of nature a home and competence for themselves are willing to forsake the beaten and more comfortable paths trodden by their forefathers. These traits of character are very commendable and this is one of the many reasons why the citizens of Ionia County justly take pride in such representative men as Mr. Haynor who is a pioneer of Ionia County, residing on section 11, Easton Township. A native of New York, he was born February 6, 1832, in Saratoga County, and is a son of Henry H. and Roxy (Clements) Haynor, natives of New York. About 1838 our subject accompanied by his parents emigrated to Michigan, by the way of the Erie Canal and the

lakes; for a short time they sojourned in Washtenaw County, and then came to Ionia County, where for a brief period they resided in Ionia City.

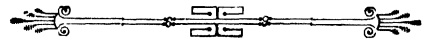
Henry H. Haynor, the father of our subject, settled on heavily timbered land in Easton Township, about five miles northwest of Ionia and became one of the early pioneers. He was the father of six children, five of whom are living: Tobias C., residing in Oceana County, Mich.; Isaac B.; Catherine J., wife of Charles Tillison, living in Easton Township; Charles H., residing in California, and Roxy, wife of John Blough, living in Clinton County, Mich. He served as Highway Commissioner, was public spirited and a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He died August 7, 1890, aged about ninety-seven years.

Our subject was reared to manhood in Ionia County amid scenes of frontier life and has consequently done much work in the pioneer line. He was educated in the early schools which at that time were poor, but being fond of study he derived much knowledge from text books, which he read, and thus educated himself. He was married April 3, 1859, to Nancy Boulton, who was born in Lenawee County, Mich., November 4, 1835. She is a daughter of William J. and Nancy (Kelly) Boulton, her mother being a native of Vermont and her father of England. Her parents came to Lenawee County, Mich., in 1835, and were early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Boulton had a large family of children, five of whom are living: Charlotte, wife of George Newton, residing in Easton Township; Mary L., wife of John Wells, living in Indiana; George, residing in Lenawee County, this State, Mrs. Haynor, and Lucius J., who lives in Easton Township.

To our subject and wife have been born four children—Albert C., Elmore, Leroy J. and Blanche. Mr. Haynor settled on his present farm about the year 1862, and here he has since remained. He owns one hundred acres of land, which he has improved, and some other property which by energy and perseverance he and his estimable wife have accumulated. Mr. Haynor is now serving as School Moderator of his district, and for nine years was School Director when the school was first organized. He was elected Treasurer of Easton

Township one year, and served as Justice of the Peace one term of four years. His aim has always been to advocate improvement in his county and in society generally. He saw the country when it was a wilderness and now sees its fields teeming with golden grain and rich harvests.

Mr. Haynor advocates an independent line of politics, voting rather for the man than the party. In the positions of trust with which he has been honored by the people of Easton Township, it is a well-known fact that he has discharged his duties with fidelity and intelligence and he has always sought the best interests of the people whom he represented. We take pleasure in assigning him one of the best places among the many enterprising and intelligent citizens of Ionia County. These pioneers whose memory will ever be sacred, are very deserving, for to them we owe the development of the great Wolverine State. Our subject is well-known for his sterling integrity in business, and commands not only the esteem but the confidence of the business community. His wife and children also have a large acquaintance and are esteemed members of society.



FRANK E. DOREMUS did not begin life with great capital or influence, for his possessions consisted chiefly of perseverance and a well balanced mind. Equipped with these talents he entered the arena of life and has won for himself fame and a competency which he now enjoys with a loving family in a pleasant home. He was born in Venango County, Pa., August 31, 1865, and is the son of Sylvester and Sarah (Peake) Doremus, natives of New York. The Doremus family traces back to Holland descent. Sylvester Doremus is now in the lumber business in the northern part of Michigan. He moved with his family to Michigan in 1866, and had lived there prior to going back to Pennsylvania.

The father of the subject of this sketch located at Ovid, Clinton County, Mich., in 1866, and from there he went to Portland in 1872. To him and his wife two children were born—Addie and Frank.

In 1889 Mr. Doremus went to Lake City, Missaukee County, where he is now engaged in the lumber business. Frank Doremus was educated in the public schools of Portland and entered the office of the *Observer* as an apprentice in 1882, where he remained six months. He then took charge of the *Pewamo Plain Dealer*, remaining there two years. In 1885 he established the *Portland Review*, and has continued with it since.

Mr. Doremus was elected Township Clerk in 1888, re-elected in 1889 and was Democratic nominee for Register of Deeds in 1888. He was defeated but was nominated by the Democrats for the Legislature in 1890, and was elected by a majority of one hundred and sixty votes over ex-Sheriff W. H. Mathison. He was married June 26, 1890, to Miss Libbie Hatley of St. Johns, Mich., a daughter of Thomas Hatley. Mr. Doremus is entitled to great credit for what he has accomplished in life. His native ability has been his capital, and he is eminently a self-made man. He is well thought of by all and is affable and kind in his ways, of graceful manners and great conversational powers.



DANIEL B. GREEN, a farmer of Otisco Township, has lived in Ionia County since his twenty-first year. He was born at Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., June 15, 1831, and received the educational advantages that were common in that section during the years of his early life. His arrival in this State was in the year 1850, and here he has pursued with steadiness the occupation of farming, to which he decided to give his attention. His home is on section 14, and the soil that he tills is productive and well cultivated. By a proper rotation of crops and the use of such fertilizing agencies as are necessary, he secures good crops from year to year, and surrounds himself with the many comforts of modern farm life.

Mr. Green is a son of George Green, who was born in Providence, R. I., and removed from his native State to New York when a young man. He

remained in that State until the middle of the nineteenth century, when he came West to spend his remaining years in Michigan. His death occurred October 10, 1863, on the one hundred-acre farm which he had taken from the Government immediately after his arrival. He was a currier and followed his trade until he came to this State, after which he retired from active life. He was married in New York to Margaret Bert, daughter of Daniel Bert, a tailor. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Green returned to the Empire State, and there she breathed her last in March, 1888. She was the mother of eight children, named respectively: George, Hiram, Alonzo, Eunice, Polly A., Sellick, Daniel B. and Esther T. Mr. Green was a devout member of the Baptist Church.

The subject of these brief paragraphs won for his wife Miss Harriet E. Luce, to whom he was married in Otisco Township, September 18, 1858. She was the oldest child of George A. and Cynthia A. (Wright) Luce, who were natives of New York, and whose family also included Emeline, James H. and Charles W. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Green was blest by the birth of three children—Sellick W., James H. and Orley B. Every effort has been made by the parents to fit them for usefulness and honor. Mrs. Green was called from time to eternity June 24, 1884, leaving a large circle of friends to mourn her departure.

Mr. Green is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. After having given a due consideration to the questions at issue between the parties, he became a Democrat, and he has never swerved in his allegiance to the organization with which he deposited his first ballot.



LUCIUS H. GIBBS. This young man is a member of the firm of J. H. Gibbs & Son, proprietors of the Hope Roller Mills, of Edmore, Montcalm County, and is the manager of that flourishing establishment. Although he is young in years he is mature in his understanding of business affairs and displays as much energy in the pursuit of his various interests as many a man

much older than he. His experience has been such as to develop his natural ability and natural tact, and he is already one of the prominent business men of the place. The reader is referred to the biographical sketch of J. H. Gibbs, on another page, for the ancestry of the family.

The birthplace of Mr. Gibbs was Burlington, Vt., and his natal day August 16, 1859. He came to this State with his parents in 1862 and grew to maturity in Kent County in the townships of Grat-tan and Oakfield. When he was eleven years old the family became residents in the city of Green-ville and the lad had the opportunity of attending the High School in that town. They next went to Cedar Springs and there the youth learned the manufacture of shingles. He had spent much time about the shingle mill from his tenth year and it seemed second nature for him to become proficient in the business. It was not long ere he had become his father's right-hand man in the work the elder Mr. Gibbs was then carrying on.

In the fall of 1882 the Gibbs family established themselves in Home Township. Here our subject acted as foreman of the shingle mill until it was closed in February, 1889, on account of there being a scarcity of lumber in this section. The next year Mr. Gibbs located in the village of Edmore, buying a pleasant residence with commodious grounds. He then formed a partnership with his father in the flouring-mill and has since been man-aging it. Not long since there was an explosion in the establishment which caused a damage of nearly \$5,000 and necessitated the closing of the place for repairs. He was one of the original share-holders in the Robinson Opera House and is now a Director in the company.

In 1878 Mr. Gibbs received a Christmas present in the shape of a wife, formerly Miss Julia Hons-comb. This lady was born in the Pine Tree State and came to Kent County, Mich., with her parents when quite small. She was reared and educated in Nelson Township and grew to womanhood in the possession of estimable qualities of mind and heart. Her union with our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, who are named Grace and Jay.

The political affiliation of Mr. Gibbs is with the

Republican party and he is identified with the so-cial orders of Odd Fellows and Masons. In the former orders his lodge membership is at Edmore and in the latter he belongs to a Chapter in Stan-ton and a Commandery in Big Rapids, while his Blue Lodge and Council are in the town in which he lives. Mr. Gibbs is essentially good natured and jolly is a believer in the old adage "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." He spends some time each year in hunting and fishing, and even during the months that he devotes to earnest care of his business he finds pleasure in social gather-ings and in the domestic circle where he is enter-taining and kind.



JOHN S. BENNETT. The biographical record of this gentleman is one of interest, and although he did not start out in life under the beneficial influences of illustrious ancestors, he now has the satisfaction offered by being trusted and beloved by his fellow-associates and is a splendid example of a self-made man. In these days of rapid progress when a youth on account of existing circumstances must place him-self at a very early age at the helm of life, he must if he would succeed be guided with a steady hand. Should he be successful as Mr. Bennett has been we will invariably find him to be a man of rare executive ability and a well balanced mind.

Mr. Bennett was born in Tioga County, N. Y., July 24, 1833, and is a son of the Rev. Ralph and Mary (Casler) Bennett, natives of the Empire State. The Rev. Mr. Bennett was a Methodist minister, and his father, Joseph Bennett, was from Vermont. The Bennetts are of English descent and the Caslers are of German descent. Mrs. Ben-nett's father, Richard Casler, came from Germany to this country. The Rev. Ralph Bennett died in 1879 in Ontario County, N. Y., and had preached twenty-five years in that State. To himself and wife were born four children, two of whom are living—Elvira, widow of Henry Bush, of Ontario County, N. Y., and our subject.

John S. Bennett was reared to agricultural pur-

suits and remained at home until twenty-three years of age. In 1856 he came to Ionia County, and entered upon farm life in Orange Township. After getting farm arrangements in readiness he returned to his native State for a wife, and soon came back to farm life with his bride. Two children have been born in this family—Edgar L., who died at the age of sixteen years and at the time was in the Ionia High School, and Florence J., wife of Edwin W. Humphrey, a dentist residing in Ionia. In the fall of 1862 Mr. Bennett was elected County Clerk of Ionia and moved to that place, where he held the office four years. Immediately thereafter he commenced the practice of law in Ionia, having been admitted to the bar May 19, 1866, as a successful candidate. In 1885 he came to Portland, for the practice of his chosen profession. He has been elected Justice of the Peace and was City Attorney of Ionia two years and City Attorney in Portland two years.

Mr. Bennett is a member of the Masonic order in which he takes great interest. He has been Master of a lodge three times, twice while living in Ionia and once in Portland. He is a Democrat in politics, his first vote however being cast for Abraham Lincoln. In the pleasant city of Portland he lives comfortably with his family, enjoying the prosperity which his labors have gained for him.



VOLNEY S. HEATH, Manager of the George S. Hyde's manufacturing and wholesale lumber business, is one of the most popular men of McBride, or indeed of Day Township, Montcalm County. His father, L. D. Heath, born in Oswego County, N. Y., in 1827, was left an orphan when only six years of age by the death of his father, who was of English descent and who had been a valiant soldier in the War of 1812. This child so early thrown upon his own resources bravely worked his own way up to manhood. He remained in New York until 1848, when he came to Michigan and began work in the

woods as a common hand in a sawmill. In time he became manager and operated mills of his own.

In 1856 L. D. Heath married Susan, daughter of Samuel Gross, who was born near Harrisburg, Pa. Her father, belonging to a family of German descent, was a stonemason and was the second settler in the township where he lived in Kent County. He worked at his trade of a stonemason and improved one hundred acres into a fine farm. He used to go on foot to mill to Ionia. He passed from earth at the age of sixty-two years, and his widow still lives at Rockford, Mich. When the father of our subject removed, during the year of his marriage, to Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., he located on a farm near the Rock River. In 1860 he came back to Michigan and settled on a farm near Middleville, and afterward on one near Rockford, Mich. He worked the farm in summer and was in the lumber business in the winters.

In 1865 the father of our subject went to Spring Lake, where he became foreman in a mill. For two years he was connected with W. H. Bell & Co., then sold his interest in this firm and entered the employ of the Grand Haven Lumber Company. Later he bought \$15,000 worth of stock and became its Vice-President and Manager in Central Michigan. In 1887 he sold out his interest in that business and retired to Spring Lake, where he engages in the real-estate business and owns some five or six thousand acres of land in various parts of Michigan and a farm of three hundred acres in Alabama. He has always been a Republican in his convictions and casts his vote for the nominees of that party. His wife has brought up her children in the faith of the Baptist Church. Four of their five children are living. Our subject is the second child and only son and was born in Middleville, Thornapple Township, Barry County, Mich., September 10, 1861. He made with his parents the various removals which have been related of the family while still very young, going to Rockford, Mich., at the age of three years, and to Spring Lake, Mich., two years later. Here he had good school advantages, which he improved with so much ambition and ability as to be graduated at the High School at the age of fourteen years. After working with his father, who was then lum-

ber inspector, he went the following year into the employ of the Grand Haven Lumber Company. He was sent to Montcalm County by them as timber buyer and inspector, and although so very young the company considered his judgment as good as any body's. In their interest he traveled all over this part of the State, and when about nineteen years old he was placed in charge of the Fish Creek log drive. During the last two years that he was employed by this company he was their book-keeper, purchasing agent and attended to their pay roll, and in a word was their most trusted employe. They discontinued operations here in 1876.

Mr. Heath formed a partnership with two others and in 1884 they bought fourteen hundred and forty acres of stump land at \$3 per acre in Day Township. The firm name was Heath, Shires & Sherman. Here our subject located and began improving and farming on the land. They have now three hundred and twenty acres under the plow and the rest in grazing land. Stock-raising has been made a specialty, especially the handling of graded Short-horn and Durham cattle, draft horses and good grades of sheep. Four teams are used upon the farm.

In the spring of 1890 the firm placed a tenant upon this big farm and Mr. Heath came to McBride to live. He became manager for George S. Hyde and carries on this business most successfully. He is in a responsible and confidential position, as Mr. Hyde is continually on the road. Mr. Heath was married in Hubbardston, Ionia County, in September, 1883, to Miss May Fink, daughter of George Fink, a retired contractor and builder. Mr. Heath has filled satisfactorily many township and social offices. In 1889 he was the youngest supervisor on the board, serving for Day Township, and his term was most satisfactory. He has been a member of the School Board a number of times and is Vice-President of the Farmers' Alliance. His wife is an active member of the Congregational Church. He is a true-blue Republican and has served as delegate frequently in county and State conventions. He is Chairman of the Republican Township Central Committee and a member of the Advisory Board of the county. He is liked by everybody and has the reputation of being every

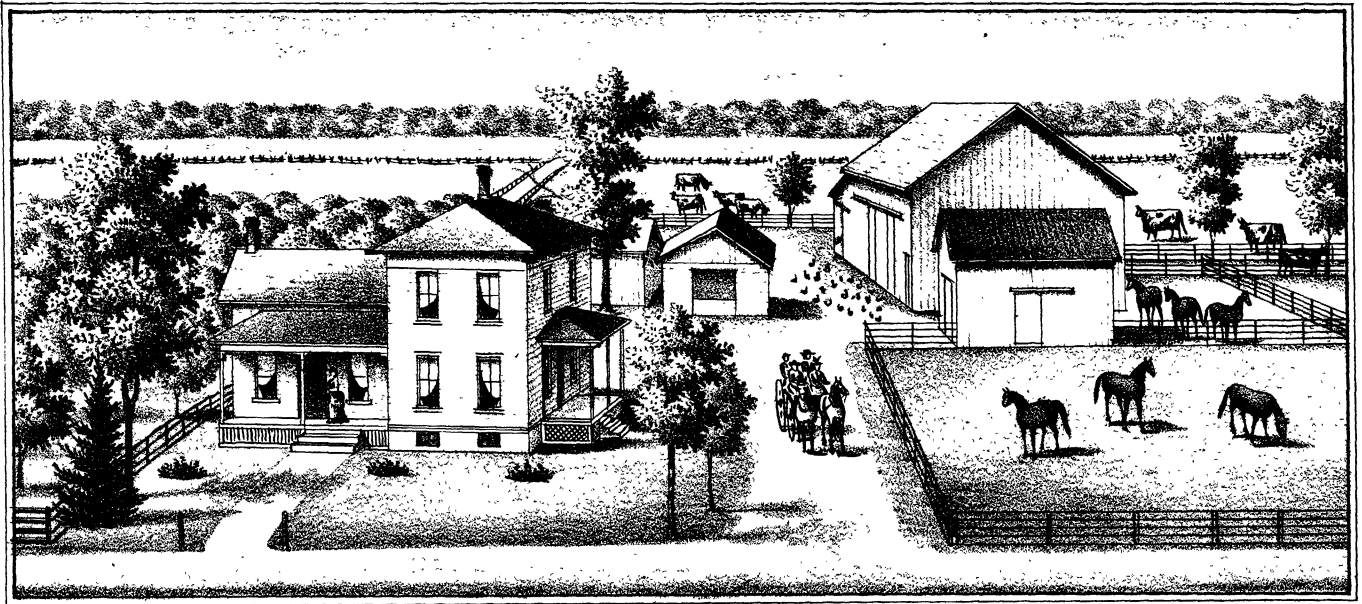
inch a gentleman, liberal and public-spirited, honest and straightforward, and in a business way has the record of being the best accountant and book-keeper in that part of the county.



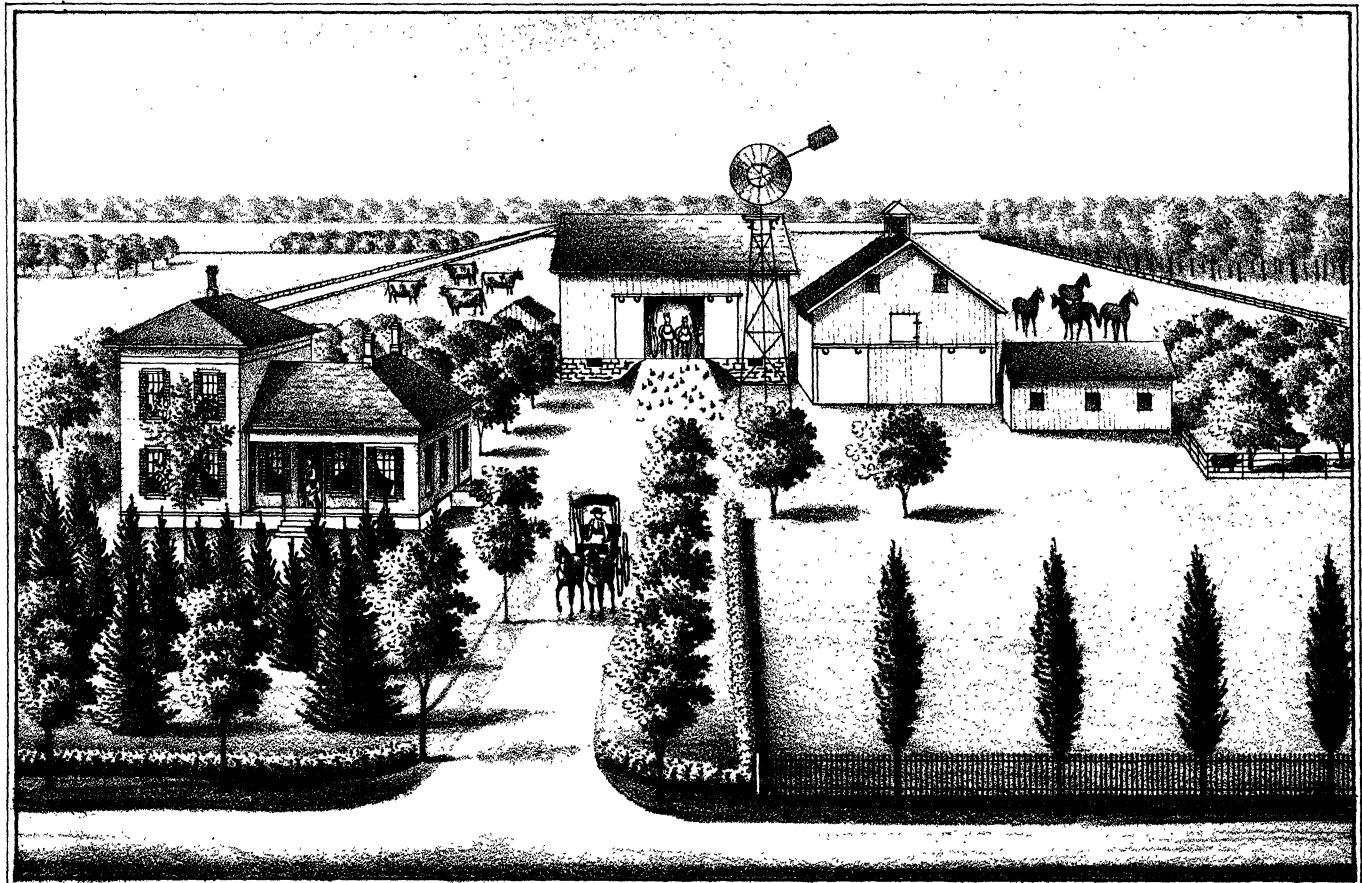
CHARLES M. DURKEE. The traveler in going past the Durkee homestead invariably turns for a second glance, as there is an air of comfort and plenty about it that is exceedingly pleasant to the eye. He at once singles it out as the result of more than ordinary enterprise and industry, a home whose proprietor possesses all the attributes of a good citizen, one who has first looked after the interest of his family, and who next, as a member of the community, presents an example to those around him which is well worthy of imitation. Mr. Durkee is well-to-do financially, and is widely and favorably known as one of the leading men of Berlin Township, Ionia County.

Mr. Durkee belongs to substantial New England stock; his father, Martin Durkee, was a native of Massachusetts and a soldier in the War of 1812. His mother, Sallie (Perry) Durkee, was related to Commodore Oliver H. Perry, of historic fame, and she also resided in Massachusetts. After their marriage the parents of our subject remained in the old Bay State until their removal to Geauga County, Ohio, where they did pioneer work in the early days. There they passed the remainder of their lives upon a farm which they had improved; he died in 1873 leaving his widow to mourn his loss until she too was called away in 1885. By a previous marriage he had become the father of four children, and of the second union six children were born, all of whom with the exception of one now survive. In his religious faith Martin Durkee leaned to the doctrines of Universalism. Politically he was a staunch Democrat, filling offices of trust for his fellow-citizens when called upon, and at one time serving as Trustee of the township.

The gentleman whose name initiates this notice was born in Massachusetts September 5, 1829, and grew to manhood in Ohio, receiving a district school education there, and beginning farm work



RESIDENCE OF JACOB WHORLEY, SEC. 10. EASTON TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF C. M. DURKEE, SEC. 27. BERLIN TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

for himself when he reached his majority. His father had passed through the struggles of pioneer life, and as a result of his industry was established in a good home and well-to-do. Our subject, trusting to his strong right arm for prosperity worked out by the month and for three years was in the South finding employment there. In 1852 he went back to Ohio to find him a wife, and was married on February 22, to Miss J. E. Hubbard, a daughter of Henry and Loadicea (Sanger) Hubbard, Massachusetts people. Mr. Hubbard was in early life a mechanic but later took up the work of farming. Having married in Massachusetts he removed to the Buckeye State in 1835 settling in Geauga County on a farm. He died in 1869 leaving his widow to mourn his loss. Six of their seventeen children are now living.

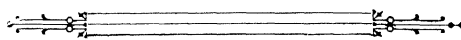
Mrs. Durkee, the fifth child of her parents, was born November 23, 1834, in Massachusetts and received an excellent education in Ohio. After marriage the young couple worked the home farm on shares for two years. They then came to Michigan in 1854 and settled upon the farm which they now occupy. Mr. Durkee took up one hundred and sixty acres of raw land upon which there were no roads and no improvements. He built a log house and began clearing off the land. Industry, frugality and enterprise led to prosperity, and he has from time to time added to his possessions and now has two hundred acres in the home farm and one hundred and twenty acres in Odessa Township besides a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he has divided between his sons. He has chopped down and cleared on the home place with his own hands over one hundred acres.

Of his two hundred acres Mr. Durkee has one hundred and eighty under cultivation. His present residence was built some twenty-two years ago at a cost of \$2,000. He is interested in the culture of fruit and set out a fine orchard. He carries on mixed farming, raising both grain and stock. Mr. Durkee and his intelligent wife are the happy parents of five children: Lafayette H. married Lotie Chatman, and lives on section 4, Odessa Township; he has four children. C. Fremont married Lizzie Brown, and resides in Berlin Township. Lester M. married Mary Van Houten, and lives on

section 4, Odessa Township; he is the father of two children. Don D. and Ellis W. are unmarried and reside at home. They have all been given the advantages of a good education and Lafayette was a student at the Ionia and Saranac schools. Ellis is attending the Poucher Business College in Ionia.

Mr. Durkee is in principle a strong Democrat and takes an intelligent interest in political affairs. The whole family are wide-awake to all matters of literary interest and education. Mr. Durkee has been for some years Director of the school. They are also active in the society of the Patrons of Industry, the father having been for two terms President of the local society and his son Don being President at the present time.

A view of the pleasant homestead of Mr. Durkee appears on another page.



JACOB WHORLEY. The enterprising German is to be found in Ionia County, as in other parts of the country, pushing his way ahead, uniformly industrious and eventually well-to-do. The subject of this sketch, a true son of the Fatherland, has secured a good farm on section 10, Easton Township, where he carries on the work of farming and stock-raising. The one hundred and twenty acres of land to which he holds the title has been brought to its present state of improvement by his own efforts and good management, as when he took possession but three acres had been cleared. Like most of the land in the county it was covered by a heavy growth of timber, and it required long and arduous labor to bring it under cultivation. Mr. Whorley also owns eighty acres of fine land in Sebewa Township. The deprivations which accompany life in a sparsely settled district were not borne by Mr. Whorley alone, but were shared by a wise and capable wife, who in her own department of their affairs did as much as he to build up their fortunes and increase their comfort.

The kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, is the place of the nativity of Mr. Whorley, and his birth occurred January 28, 1831. His parents were Peter

and Rebecca Whorley, the former of whom was a master weaver. In accordance with the custom of the country our subject was placed in school during his childhood and pursued his studies until he was fourteen years old, thus gaining a good knowledge of practical branches. Since he came to America he has acquired a sufficient knowledge of the English language to transact business affairs and enjoy the companionship of the English-speaking people about him. When he left school he began an apprenticeship with his father, and at the expiration of three years took up the work of a journeyman weaver, which he followed some two years. For the same length of time he was engaged in cotton spinning.

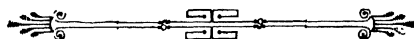
Having been led to believe that the broad lands of America and its free institutions made it desirable for residence, Mr. Whorley took passage at Havre, France, during the year 1852, and after thirty-nine days landed in New-York City. He went to Monroe County, where he worked as a farm hand more than six years. For the first year's labor he received \$112 and board, and for the second and third \$144 and board. He then married, and in lieu of his board had his wages raised to \$250 per year. His services were so highly valued that he was given some valuable farm privileges, including house rent. He and his wife were prudent and economical, and having determined if possible to secure a good home, they came to this State where land was cheaper than in the East, and where their little capital could be profitably expended. They bought the property which they now own, and by industry and perseverance increased its value year by year.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Whorley in the Empire State, August 12, 1856, was Mrs. Anna (Lapp) Caswell. She was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, October 22, 1828, and while living there was married to James Caswell, and they became the parents of three children, two of whom are living—Sarah Elizabeth and Oscar C. When in her twenty-seventh year Mrs. Caswell went to Monroe County, N. Y., and there was united in marriage with our subject. Her parents were Jeremiah and Sarah Lapp, the former of whom was born in England, and the latter in Can-

ada but of English parentage. The mother died when the daughter was but eight years old, and the father January 7, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Whorley had four sons, whose names are: George, Henry, Mathew and Willis.

The only office Mr. Whorley has held was that of Treasurer of his school district, but in that which goes to make up good citizenship he is not found wanting. Politically he is a Democrat, and is identified with the Patrons of Industry, as well as being interested in other movements that promise well for the neighborhood. He is a man of much intelligence, retains the enterprising spirit which has brought him worldly prosperity, and has a leading place among the German-American citizens of the county.

We invite the reader's attention to a view of the fine estate of Mr. Whorley which is presented in connection with this biographical notice.



BENJAMIN F. WOODMAN. It is always pleasant to know that honest industry is rewarded, and to find those who have labored industriously, securing a competence that enables them to lay aside the burdens of life as they grow old, and enjoy the recreations suited to their years and the pleasure that comes of aiding others to a station of usefulness and honor. The subject of this notice is one of the well-known residents of Saranac, Ionia County, and one who is enjoying the fruits of his industry in earlier years. He has lived in this county long enough to note the growth of Ionia from a mere hamlet, to witness the introduction of railroads, and see the wild lands transformed into fertile farms and comfortable homes. Indian wigwams were a common sight when he came to this county, and he became so familiar with the savages that he could converse intelligibly in their language, and sometimes attended their war dances.

In the paternal line Mr. Woodman is of English lineage, while on his mother's side he traces his genealogy back to Germany. His father, Joseph Woodman, was born in Vermont and was a physi-

cian and surgeon. He enlisted in the War of 1812, served in Col. Mill's regiment, and was stationed at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y. When peace was declared he remained in the Empire State, practicing his profession until 1837, when he removed to Oakland County, Mich. He opened an office in the village of Novi, where he carried on professional work until his death, which occurred in 1839. Politically he was a Democrat. His good wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Wright, survived him some years. Neither belonged to the church at the time of their death, but both had formerly been members of the Universalist Church.

The birthplace of our subject was Jefferson County, N. Y., and his natal day December 13, 1822. He pursued his studies in the common school there prior to the age of sixteen years, when he accompanied his parents to this State. After the death of his father he went back to work by the month on a farm and continued his labors until 1844. He then came to Ionia County and before long bought eighty acres of land in Keene Township. The tract was heavily timbered, and in fact the entire township was covered with large trees and underbrush. Mr. Woodman found a boarding place as near his land as possible, which was two and a half miles, and every day for two winters he went back and forth night and morning, spending the day in chopping. During the summer he would go to the eastern part of the State and work for money with which to carry him through the winter. Thus he succeeded in preparing his land for cultivation, or least such a part of it as justified him in making his home upon it. During the winter of 1847 he taught in Easton Township, and he then turned his attention exclusively to the development of his property.

In May, 1848, Mr. Woodman was married to Miss Rhoda B. Lee, and building a log cabin 18x24 feet, he and his bride set up housekeeping. At that time wild animals—deer, wolves, etc.—were still numerous in the locality, and Mr. Woodman always kept a good gun in the house, by means of which to supply his table with game. He worked industriously to clear and improve the rest of the land, and during the ensuing ten years cut down eighty acres of timber and added forty acres

to the property. He and his wife often recall incidents connected with their life in the little log cabin, where they started out to make their fortune by the sweat of their brows. Their life was toilsome and marked with many privations, but each year saw some improvement in the situation of affairs, and they were buoyed up by hope and mutual affection.

After living on the property ten years Mr. Woodman sold it for \$4,000 and removed to Kent County, near Grand Rapids. There he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, eighty of which was improved, and had upon it a good house and barn and a bearing orchard. For this property Mr. Woodman paid the amount which he had received for his former farm. He made it his home about twenty-five years, and owned it about thirty years. He had it under good cultivation and well improved and supplied with a good grade of stock, and during his ownership he added to the estate one hundred and twenty acres adjoining. In 1882, having sold the farm a short time before, he removed to Saranac, where the only business in which he is engaged is that of loaning money.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Woodman consists of a son and three daughters, whose names are: Lewis C., Sarah A., Eva L. and Carrie A. The son now lives on part of the estate formerly owned by his father in Kent County. Mr. Woodman has held every township office except Constable and Justice of the Peace, and during middle life was in office almost continually. He is a charter member of the Masonic lodge of Saranac. He and his wife are well known in this and Kent Counties, and their friends are numbered by the score.



GEORGE W. WHITE. Among the pioneers of Keene Township, Ionia County, Mr. White is deserving of mention. He and his faithful wife came hither in 1841 and established their home on a tract of land purchased from the Government at \$1.25 per acre. Mr. White found it necessary to fell trees in order to make room for his dwelling, which was a log cabin about

18x20 feet. After some years that primitive residence was replaced by a more modern and commodious structure, and other improvements rose from time to time as the forest growth was removed and the ground fitted for cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. White had their share of the hardships incidental to life in new fields, but they bore them cheerfully buoyed up by their mutual affection and the hope of securing a good home.

Mr. White was born June 27, 1817, in "Merrie England," and is a son of George K. and Elizabeth (Warrant) White. When he was a child of three years his parents crossed the broad Atlantic and located in Monroe County, N. Y. There they sojourned until the son was seventeen years old, when they removed to Seneca County, Ohio. The schooling of our subject was obtained in the common schools of the localities in which his boyhood and youth were passed and he is to a large degree self-educated, as the opportunities afforded him in the school room were not sufficient to give him a wide range of knowledge.

The marriage of Mr. White was solemnized a half a century since, on April 27, 1841. The bride was born in Baden, Germany, October 12, 1820, and her parents were George and Mary (Smith) Joseph. She was about nine years old when they emigrated to America and made a settlement in Seneca County, Ohio. There she grew to womanhood, learning those domestic arts which are considered a part of the education of every German maiden, and gaining knowledge of other things which fitted her to fill a useful walk in life. Of the eight children born to her parents seven survived, the others being Isaac, John J., Mrs. Mary Monks, Mrs. Sarah Nichols, Mrs. Lena Lemon, and Mrs. Christina Wagner.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. White are eight in number and are named respectively, Charles M., Elizabeth, Arthur, Louisa, George, Emma, Albert and Ida. Elizabeth is the wife of Daniel Monk; Louisa married Myron Fish; Emma is the wife of L. Walter. The land on which Mr. and Mrs. White established themselves soon after their marriage, was a tract of eighty acres. The estate has been increased and now contains one hundred acres, which are highly developed, and the

possession of which proves the ability and industry of the owner. Mr. White attended and voted at the first town meeting held in Keene Township, and has been a potent factor in the progress of the locality toward prosperity and advanced civilization.

As Highway Commissioner Mr. White has done good service for the traveling public and as School Director he has aided in advancing the cause of education. In whatever movement the public is generally interested he is found ready to participate, and he and his wife, to whose counsel and encouragement he owes much, rejoice greatly in the improvements their eyes have seen. Mr. White votes the Republican ticket. Honesty is one of his chief virtues, and other reliable traits which have made of Great Britain one of the most powerful nations of the world have been displayed throughout his life. It is needless to say that he and his wife have many warm friends and are generally respected.



NEWTON R. DANIELS, a very successful farmer of Ionia County, owns and operates a well-developed farm on section 21, Easton Township. He took possession of this tract when it was in a wild state and much of it was covered with forest. By dint of energy and hard work he brought it to its present condition, placing the ninety-five acres under thorough cultivation, and building such structures as the comfort of his family and the extent of his work made wise. He has shown himself to be possessed of financial ability and perseverance, and his present circumstances attest to his success in worldly affairs.

Mr. Daniels was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., August 12, 1844, and is one of five children making up the family of Levi and Parmelia (Bacon) Daniels. He is the youngest of those who survived, the others being Louisa and Charles H., the former the wife of Joseph Burgdurf now living in Mecosta County. His own early life was spent in his native State and while receiving a common-school education he was reared to farm pursuits which he has continued to follow. He lost his mother when he

was about twelve years old and the home being broken up he was thrown upon his own resources. Upon the foundation laid in the school room he has built a superstructure of knowledge of general topics sufficient to entitle him to rank among the well informed members of the community.

In the spring of 1865 Mr. Daniels came to Ionia County and during the following season he worked by the month as a farm hand. He then established his home, taking for his helpmate and companion Miss Rosina F. Potter. This efficient woman was a daughter of Francis and Keziah Potter. She was called from earth September 20, 1889, leaving a void in the home and in the hearts of many friends who had known and loved her. She was a member of the Baptist Church, with which Mr. Daniels is identified. Their children are May, Frank, Rosa, William and George. The elder daughter is a teacher of music and all are active in society.

The political allegiance of Mr. Daniels is given to the principles of Democracy and he aims to assist in bringing up the status of the county socially and financially. He enjoys the confidence of business men, is an intelligent and law-abiding citizen and a good neighbor, securing the respect of his acquaintances.



HENRY LOUKS. This gentleman has been a resident of this State since he was eighteen years old, and from 1877 has been occupying a farm in Bloomer Township, Montcalm County. His property here consists of two hundred and forty acres so developed and cultivated as to be very valuable and remunerative. The residence now occupied by the family was built in 1889, and is a beautiful two-story brick, with nine rooms, an excellent cellar, and large verandas. It is finished in oak and ash, and cost about \$3,500. The cellar is divided into four rooms, which are lathed and plastered, and can be kept as clean and fresh as any living room in the house. About twelve acres of land is set out with fruit trees so arranged as to form three distinct orchards. The barns and other out-houses are adequate for

every purpose, and in them a fine lot of horses, cattle and sheep are housed. The wool-bearing animals are Lincolnshires and Shropshires.

The parents of our subject were William H. and Julia Ann (Burger) Louks, who were born in Vermont and Canada respectively. For some years their home was in Connecticut, and in Washington County, that State, our subject was born June 23, 1843. He was his father's assistant in carrying on a farm, even in his early years, and had but meager opportunities for obtaining an education. When the family came to this State, they chose Montcalm County as their future place of abode, and the father took up forty acres of land, on which he built a log cabin that was the home of the family for some time. The son aided in developing the place and made it his home until he was twenty-six years old. The parents sojourned there until the father was called hence November 18, 1886. The mother survived until March 18, 1887, when she too passed away.

The subject of this notice enlisted in Company K, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, and after being mustered in, was sent to Cincinnati, and thence to Nashville. He was in the service about nine months, and was sick nearly all the time, suffering from an ailment common in the camps, and that had become chronic. He was present at but one engagement, the battle of Crab Orchard, and from the convalescent camp was discharged in December, 1862. The colonel under whose command he served was A. A. Stevens, of Saranac, of this State. Upon receiving his discharge, Mr. Louks returned to his father's roof and remained there about four years. He then married and established a home of his own, and six years later took possession of the property he now operates. He has cleared eighty acres of the land.

The lady who presides over the household affairs on Mr. Louks' farm, became his wife in March, 1871. She was born in Ohio, and was ten years old when her father removed from Trumbull to Hancock County, and in 1861 she came to this State. Her home was in Montcalm County, at the time of her marriage, and the name she then bore was Lodoske Smith. Having no children, she has the more time to give to neighborly deeds, and she is

valued in the community for her kindness in times of sorrow or distress. Mr. Louks is a Republican, but is not a politician or office seeker. He was elected Constable in the spring of 1891, but has not qualified for the office. As a citizen he is steady and reliable, and as a farmer he is classed among the best and most progressive in Bloomer Township.



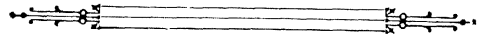
RICHARD G. LYON. A visit to the farm of this gentleman would repay any one who enjoys seeing a well-regulated rural home and well-kept stock, as Mr. Lyon is the owner of domestic animals of good breeds and grades, and operates his farm according to approved methods. His estate is pleasantly situated in Crystal Township, Montcalm County, and consists of one hundred and sixty acres, eighty of which are cleared and sixty-five under the plow. The farmhouse is one of the best in the township, is large and convenient, and of quite modern design, having been built six years ago. It is two stories high and contains eleven rooms. The outbuildings include everything that is necessary and all are well built, especially the barns, that were put up eight years since.

The natal day of Mr. Lyon was April 29, 1825, his birthplace Essex, N. Y., and his parents Gershon and Lucretia (Buckmister) Lyon. The parents were natives of Vermont and New Hampshire respectively, and the father was a farmer. The early years of the son were spent in the country and he had but limited school advantages, having to walk two miles in order to get what instruction the country school afforded. When but fifteen years old he left his home and went to Lake Champlain, where he found employment and remained between thirty and thirty-five years. During a part of the time he was a steamboat pilot and a part of the time captain of a sailing-vessel.

In July, 1861, Mr. Lyon was married to Mrs. Mary F. Holly, *nee* French. That estimable lady was a native of Williston, Vt., and possessed the energy and thrift characteristic of the natives of

New England. In 1836 she bought from the Government a tract of Michigan land, on which she and her husband located in March, 1868. There were no improvements on the land and Mr. Lyon cut down the trees, removed the brush and logs and prepared the soil for crops. Mrs. Lyon lived to see the property placed under improvement and to enjoy all the comforts that advanced civilization has brought to the residents of Montcalm County. She died at her home here May 17, 1886.

One of the adornments of Mr. Lyon's farm is a thrifty orchard, where fine varieties of fruits are raised. He has about fifteen head of fine Jersey cattle, and his milch cows yield many quarts of rich lacteal fluid. Mr. Lyon is a law-abiding and reliable citizen, a good farmer and an excellent neighbor. He is not a politician, but generally deposits a Republican ballot.



GEORGE A. REED, one of the prominent men of Lake View, Montcalm County, was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, N. Y., March 25, 1835. He is the son of Aaron T. Reed, a native of New York State who was a farmer and livery man and who ran a stage line in that part of the country. He died in Onondaga County, N. Y., when our subject was only ten years old. As this little boy had lost his mother at the age of three years, he was now doubly orphaned and the three children, Elizabeth A., William H., and George were scattered among friends.

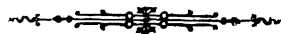
From the time when our subject lost his father until he was twenty-one years old he worked out on a farm by the month earning his board and clothes. He received a common-school education but had no further advantages in that line. Upon reaching his majority he went to Preble, Cortland County, N. Y., and learned the trade of a blacksmith. He then went to Manlius, Onondaga County, and worked at his trade until November, 1861, when he answered the call of his nation in its hour of need and entered the army. He enlisted as a private in the First New York Independent

Battery and served for three years with that command in the army of the Potomac. That battery was connected with the Sixth Army Corps, and participated in many hard fought battles. Altogether our young hero was in thirty-four engagements including the battle of Gettysburg. Wonderful as it may seem he has not a scar to show his war record, for he was never wounded. He also escaped being taken prisoner, but he suffered seriously in his health, as he had both the measles and typhoid fever in the service from which he has never fully recovered.

At the close of the war the young soldier located at Greenville, Mich., where he worked at his trade until August, 1868, at which time he came to Lake View, built a shop and began blacksmithing, which he has continued to the present time. He is the pioneer blacksmith of Lake View. He has given all his time and attention to his work and has built up an excellent business, having the best of reputations for thoroughness and attention to business. He started in the world a poor orphan boy, with none to depend upon, and has made for himself a good record and a good home. He has one of the nicest residences in Lake View, finished and furnished with taste and elegance. He is a Democrat in his political views and has held some responsible offices and is now Town Clerk. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Royal Arch Degree. Also the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The cultured and accomplished lady who presides over his home was united with him in marriage October 13, 1865. She was Bettie A. Matteson, of Greenville, Mich., and was born in Warsaw, Wyoming County, N. Y. Her parents Thomas and Lavancia (Coats) Matteson, were natives of New England and both died in Warsaw. Two beautiful children bless this union: Fred the eldest died in infancy; Myrtia grew up in Lake View and was a decided favorite with all who knew her. She was beautiful and accomplished, and highly educated having graduated from the Alma Michigan Normal College. For three years she taught in the graded schools of Lake View. In the summer of 1890 she was visiting at Port Huron, Mich., and

went out with a party of young people in a row boat upon the St. Clair River, on the evening of August 6. A ferry boat ran into the little skiff and cut it in two. This lovely girl was the only one drowned. Her body was not recovered for several days and was then found fifteen miles below Port Huron. For many months her death cast a gloom over the whole town as she was deeply beloved by all who knew her.



SPENCER L. SHAW. The late Spencer L. Shaw became a resident of Ionia County several decades since, and was one of the potent factors in the progress of the town of Saranac. He was engaged in the mercantile business there for several years and owned a large portion of the land on which the eastern part of the village now stands. On going out of mercantile life, Mr. Shaw devoted his attention to buying and selling real estate and loaning money, and accumulated a handsome competency. He held several offices of public trust and responsibility, and was always found ready to take under consideration any project which promised to elevate the standard of social, moral, or financial matters in this section of the State.

Mr. Shaw was born in Oneida County, N. Y., August 22, 1814, and reared on a farm in Floyd Township, his father being a farmer. The parents, Stillman and Elizabeth (Perry) Shaw, came to this State and spent the later years of their lives in Saranac. The family consisted of four sons and two daughters, named respectively—Orrin, Mary Jane, Helen, Solomon, Spencer L. and Stephen. Orrin, Mary and Solomon are now deceased. Spencer L. remained in his native State during his boyhood and youth, gaining information from books and the world around him, and preparing for his future career.

In his early manhood Mr. Shaw visited Lapeer County, this State, and for some years that was his home. Among the acquaintances he made there, was Miss Lucretia Gardner, who, on the 15th of September, 1842, united her fortunes with his and

walked the pathway of life by his side until he was called to his last rest. She is now living in Saranac on the old place where many happy years were spent, and where she expects to end her days. She has had seven children, but three have crossed to the other shore. The living are Alice, widow of Dr. A. P. Jones, a resident of Chicago; Mary, wife of Henry Frace, of Saranac; Carrie residing in Chicago; and Maud, who is with the mother. They have been carefully reared, given good educational advantages and are doing credit to their opportunities.

Mrs. Shaw is the daughter of William and Clarissa (Vosburgh) Gardner, who were born in New York, and both of whom had Dutch blood in their veins. Mrs. Gardner also had Scotch ancestors. They were earnest Christians and held membership in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gardner spent the earlier part of his life in merchandising in New York, and in Lapeer County, this State, but later turned his attention to farming. His death occurred in 1874, ten years after his wife had entered into rest. Their family consisted of eight children. Those now living are Catherine, wife of James Gray, at Lapeer; Aurelia, wife of John B. Sutton, at Lapeer; Elmira, wife of Peter Randall, living at Flint; Emma, who married David Henderson, and lives in Attica; Lucretia, wife of our subject; and William, whose home is in Lapeer.

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw removed from Lapeer County to Saranac in 1854, driving through in the early spring and experiencing several hardships in making the journey to the then uncultivated country. Prior to their removal they had improved a farm, but soon after the change was made Mr. Shaw entered upon a mercantile career. His store was on Main Street for several years, and after going out of business there he turned his attention to the pursuits before mentioned. One of his later investments was the purchase of one hundred acres of land on Pine Lake, eight miles from Lansing, which he platted into village lots, many of which have been sold and have had neat residences erected upon them.

The religious views of Mr. Shaw, those of Spiritualism, were firmly fixed, and he was always ready to support them by argument, and yet willing to

accord to others the right he asked for himself—that of liberty of religious thought and action. It was his design to make the delightful spot he platted near Lansing, a resort for those of the Spiritualist belief, and to build there a liberal institution of learning, a medical college, a mediums' home and an old ladies' home. Although he was not permitted to live to see his ambitions realized, it is believed that all will ultimately be accomplished, and that Nemoka will become all that he wished.

Personally Mr. Shaw was genial and friendly, and always ready to accommodate one who was worthy of consideration. His business transactions were conducted in an honorable manner, and he was liberal with his means for the support of public enterprises and the upbuilding of the town in which he lived. He was at one time a Mason, and in politics he was a Democrat. The date of his decease was January 29, 1887, the cause thereof was paralysis of the heart, and his age seventy-two years. A suitable epitaph for him is given in the simple words, "a pleasant neighbor, a kind father and a faithful companion."



JOHAN DICK. In this biographical record we have given us the life of a self-made man, and a soldier in the Civil War. Mr. Dick came to this country in the days of his childhood without fortune or friends, save those of his own hearthstone, and by his perseverance and honesty of purpose has gained for himself warm friends and a comfortable competency. A prominent farmer and stock-raiser in Ionia County, Mich., he has always faithfully performed the duties of a citizen and to his chosen political line has been a firm adherent. He was born May 10, 1839, in Bavaria, Germany, and is the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Dick. His parents are natives of Bavaria, Germany, where they yet reside and are past eighty years of age.

Mr. Dick was reared in Germany until he was fifteen years of age, at which time he emigrated to America, taking passage at Liverpool on a sailing vessel and after an ocean voyage of fifty-four days

landed at New York City, and remained there for about nine months. He then came to this county and for some eight years was employed on a farm by William Kittson, who resided at that time on section 3, Easton Township.

For the first year Mr. Dick received \$5 a month and the last year averaged about \$13 per month. He enlisted August 21, 1862, in the Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, Company K, and became a part of the army under Gen. Buell, the Army of the Cumberland. Here he fought in the battle of Perryville, and others of minor importance and was honorably discharged March 12, 1863. He re-enlisted December 15, 1863, in Company E, First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, his duties in this regiment being to build bridges, tear up railroad tracks and various other duties connected with this department. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea and was present at the surrender of Savannah, and also at the surrender of Johnston's army.

He participated in the Grand Review at Washington and was honorably discharged September 22, 1865. After this war experience he came to Ionia County, where he has since remained. He receives a pension of \$12 per month, having contracted an infirmity while in the service of his country.

Our subject was married November 1, 1866, to Susan Robertson, who was born in Invernesshire, Scotland, January 15, 1843. She is a daughter of William and Barbara (Grant) Robertson, natives of Scotland, and when fourteen years of age she was left motherless. When sixteen years old she came with her father and sister to America, taking passage on a steamer at Glasgow, and after an ocean voyage of twelve days they landed in Quebec and came to Michigan, selecting Ionia County as their destination and here became identified with the early pioneers. Mrs. Dick has two brothers and four sisters living in the State of Michigan: Eliza, wife of Henry Dyers, in Osceola County; David; Ann, in Easton Township; Duncan, in Ionia Township; Barbara, wife of Samuel Lemmuel in Ronald Township; and Jean M., who is a resident of Scotland.

Our subject in 1866 settled on his present farm

where he has since resided. When he first came to this county it was in a wild and unsettled condition and like most of the pioneers of that time he was obliged to endure some hardships. He owns seventy-six acres of valuable land where in 1880 he built his present fine residence. He is self-educated and with the assistance of his wife has made their home what it now is—one among the best in Easton Township.

In Germany Mr. Dick received a good common-school education and in this country has acquired a fair knowledge of the English language in which he is able to transact business in its various branches. He is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and is politically a Republican. He is an advocate for improvements of all kinds and in his efforts for these he is very earnest and to him in a great measure Ionia County is indebted for some of its fine stock. He makes a specialty of stock-raising, always reaching out for all improvements in this line. Mr. Dick and wife are active and esteemed members of the community where they reside.



WILLIAM F. HEYDLAUFF is a native of Michigan, having been born in Freedom Township, Washtenaw County, October 28, 1835. He resides now on section 36, Ronald Township, Ionia County. His father, Christian F., was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and his grandfather, Martin, was in the employ of King William. The mother of our subject was also a native of Germany, Anna M. Wagnen by name and was born in Stuttgart. The parents of William were married in Wurtemberg in 1830 and in the same year they came to America and located in Detroit. Four years later they removed to a farm in Washtenaw County. The father, who was a land speculator, died April 23, 1875, aged seventy-two years. The mother is still living having completed her fourscore years. These parents were among the early settlers of Ionia County. They were the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters, namely: John, William F., Lewis H., Jacob, (de-

ceased); Frank C. (deceased); Mary B.; Christian and Elizabeth (deceased).

William Heydlauff was nine years old when he came to Ionia County with his parents. His first and only experience in a public school was in Washtenaw County, his native home. He received his education mostly from his father and mother, they being well educated and deeply interested in the development of their children. When sixteen years old he left home and went to California by water, taking the steamer "Illinois" at New York City and going by the way of the Isthmus of Panama. He landed in San Francisco and remained in California eighteen years during which time he engaged in mining and mercantile business. He traveled a great deal all over that part of the country and returned home on a visit in 1859. He repeated this visit in 1869 and returned West, but the following year he decided to come to Michigan to make his home. He now resides on the old homestead where his father lived and owns eighty acres of well-improved land, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. He is a man of decided political views and votes the Republican ticket.



AMOS R. MATHER, Cashier of the bank at Lake View, and one of the most prominent citizens of Montcalm County, was born in Geneseo, Livingston County, N. Y., July 27, 1838. He is the son of John C. and Betsey E. (Kellogg) Mather, natives of New York State. They were married at Geneseo, where the father died December 1, 1877, having completed his three-score and ten years, as he was born April 9, 1807. His wife, who was born in 1811, still survives. He was a farmer all his life and a man in comfortable circumstances. He was a Whig in the early days, and afterward very naturally a Republican. He was very active and efficient in township and educational interests, and he and his good wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church from early life. The first members of the family came to America in Colonial days and

settled in Massachusetts. Our subject's Grandfather Kellogg was a soldier in the War of 1812.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Mather were parents of the following children: Mary, Sidney W., Julia and Eliza (twins), Amos R., Norman W., Sarah A., Augustus E. and Fannie J. Augustus and Sidney are deceased.

After attending the district schools our subject pursued his studies in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, at Lima, N. Y., and also took a thorough course in the Business College. He remained with his father until he was twenty-four years of age, when he married and the following spring, 1864, came to Lyons, Ionia County, and bought a farm. In 1867 he sold this farm and removed to Muir, engaging in the lumber business and buying and selling logs. Three years later he removed to Howard City, Mich., which was then being built, and he had the agency of the village plat property for eleven years. He was elected Supervisor in 1871, and held that office five years. Between 1875 and 1880 he carried on a drug and stationery business, and was Postmaster at the same time. In the fall of 1880 he came to Lake View and engaged in the banking business, but sold out his interest in the bank in the fall of 1886, since which time he has been employed as Cashier. He is a thorough business man and a good financier, and is well esteemed by his neighbors.

Mr. Mather is an ardent Republican, a Knight Templar and a member of Pilgrim Commandery No. 23, at Big Rapids. He also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and to the Knights of the Maccabees. The lady who presides with so much dignity and grace over his beautiful home became his wife June 24, 1863. Her maiden name was Emma J. Macomber. Her home was in Three Rivers, Mich., and she was born in Alabama, N. Y., November 21, 1842, a daughter of Charles and Mary A. (Burt) Macomber. At the death of her father he left her by will a goodly fortune. Her parents came to Michigan in 1845 and settled in St. Joseph County. Mr. Macomber died in Three Rivers, Mich., October 31, 1874, in the seventy-fifth year of his age, and his good wife is still living at the very advanced age of eighty-nine years. Four children have been granted to Mr. and Mrs.,

Mather, namely: Charles C., now Assistant Cashier in the bank at Lake View; Mary M., Fannie J. and Daisy M. The youngest daughter died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Mather are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are earnest workers in the upbuilding of Christianity.

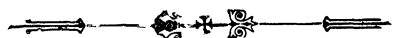


EDSON PICKELL. Many veterans of the Union army reside in Montcalm County, and Sidney Township has its full share of these brave men who look back with pleasure and honest pride upon the service which they rendered their country in the hour of need. They greatly enjoy a chat together of the old days when they went campaigning and their recitals of their experiences are inspiring to the generations who have grown up since the days of the war.

Among these old soldiers is Edson Pickell, who was born in Pennsylvania, January 24, 1842, the son of Isaac and Mary (Williams) Pickell. His father was a blacksmith by occupation and found abundant demand for his services when he removed to Michigan in 1843, with his little household. Two brothers of our subject reside in Michigan, both successful farmers. Chauncy lives in Crystal Township, this county, and Frank E., resides in Hanover, Jackson County. The sister, Mrs. Margaret Bader, makes her home in Liberty, Jackson County. The father's first home in Michigan was in Leoni. He did not find opportunity of giving his son other education than that which could be found in the village schools, but he allowed him to begin work at the age of eighteen years.

Young Pickell although barely having reached his majority at the time of the Civil War, decided to enter the army, and enlisted in Company D, First Michigan Infantry. This notable regiment was joined to the army of the Potomac under Gen. Grant, and saw hard fighting and many conflicts. Our young hero served nearly four years. He was in the battles of Mechanicsville, Malvern Hill, Gaines' Mill, Antietam, Shepard's Ford, Peters-

burg, Fredericksburg, and Cold Harbor. He was under the splendid generalship of Grant all through the war and was with him at the time when he received Gen. Lee's sword in the surrender. He was mustered out of service at Jeffersonville, Ind., in the fall of 1865, and returned to Jackson County, Mich. Mr. Pickell has been twice married. The first time to Cornelia Belcher, of Lenawee County. This union took place September 22, 1865, and resulted in the birth of three children, namely: Charles, born October 1, 1866; Frederick, December 23, 1868; Seth, April 1, 1871. The mother of these children passed from earth August 22, 1872. His second marriage which took place July 5, 1873, united him with Rosa Belle Mesler, of Sidney Township. This marriage has remained childless. When he removed in November, 1872, to his present home he found it a wilderness. He has cleared this place of eighty acres and built upon it houses and barns. He has lately added to his industries a store, carrying a stock of groceries and harness. In politics he is a Republican. He is at present Justice of the Peace and has been School Director and School Moderator, being always active in affairs of education. Our subject is a member of Ausmer F. Cole Post, No. 215, G. A. R., and also belongs to the Patrons of industry.



WALTER H. PRICE. This gentleman holds a reputable place among the business men of Lyons, Ionia County, and for so young a man is advancing rapidly in his career. He deals in dry-goods and groceries, shoes and general merchandise, his establishment being located on Main Street with well filled shelves and goods suited to the wants of the people. Mr. Price has had quite a varied experience for one of his years and in business transactions has gained the knowledge of affairs that fits him for conducting an establishment of his own. His mental qualifications are excellent, he having been given a liberal schooling that included a commercial course of training.

The immediate progenitors of our subject were born in the Empire State, their names being

Truman S. and Anna R. (Gleason) Price. The father was a locomotive engineer and followed his trade until 1864, when he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Eighty-sixth New York Infantry, and battled for his country about a year. He received a gunshot wound over his right eye and after some time in the hospital was sufficiently recovered from its effects to be sent home. He then ran a stationary engine in his native State until 1870, when he removed to Michigan. He settled in Saginaw, but after a sojourn of a year removed to Hersey, Osceola County, and from that point to Ionia County. After this change of residence he abandoned his former occupation and gave his attention to farming. He finally retired to Big Rapids and remained until his demise in 1890. His widow still lives in that city. Mr. Price was a Republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His family comprised seven children—Walter H., Mrs. Anna Higginson, Edward T., Frank M., Sarah E., George W. and Herbert.

The birth of Walter Price occurred at Oswego, N. Y., in 1862, and he attended school at Pierrepont Manor when he was of proper age. After the removal to this State he continued his studies in Saginaw, Hersey and Ionia, and later took a business course in Big Rapids, receiving a diploma in 1888. Mr. Price started out in life by obtaining work on a farm near Ionia and next went to Big Rapids and followed engineering for a time. After being engaged in various stores in Big Rapids he then accepted the position of manager of a store for the West Michigan Lumber Company at Park City, and thence returned to Big Rapids, and from that point went to Orleans and entered into partnership with Andrew J. Hale for the sale of general merchandise. The connection lasted about fourteen months and Mr. Price then established his present business in Lyons.

During the year 1881 Mr. Price was united in marriage with Miss Etta C. Wandel, daughter of George and Caroline Wandel, who live on a farm in Easton Township, Ionia County. Mr. Wandel was born in New York and his wife is a native of this State. Their daughter was carefully reared and has developed into an intelligent Christian woman. To her have been born three children—Vernon J.,

Maud R. and Ethel. Mr. and Mrs. Price belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is devoted to the interests of religion, earnestly endeavors to mold his every action after the perfect model, and works zealously in church enterprises. Mr. Price has city property in Big Rapids and is fairly started on the high road to competence and wealth. In politics he is a staunch Prohibitionist.



S IDNEY GARDNER. Among the well-regulated farms of Otisco Township is that of the gentleman above named, who has been one of the factors in the progress of Ionia County since he was a youth of seventeen years. The farm which he now owns and occupies is pleasantly located on section 30, and consists of sixty acres of fertile land, upon which will be seen a complete line of farm buildings, substantial and sufficiently commodious to answer every purpose. Mr. Gardner has done much of the work of the pioneer, having cleared a large acreage of land and prepared it for cultivation and habitation.

Before giving the facts in the history of Mr. Gardner it will not be amiss to make some mention of his parents. His father, William Gardner, was born in the Empire State, whence he removed to Canada. After making his home in the Dominion for a number of years he returned to the States in 1844, settling in the township that is now the home of his son. Here he died in 1863. He was a wheelwright, but after coming to this State located upon a farm, having bought one hundred and sixty acres. He was High Sheriff for a number of years in Canada. Originally a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he was connected with the Advent Church when he died. In Canada he married Lena Muma, daughter of John Muma, a native of Germany. This lady was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Sidney Gardner was born in Canada, February 29, 1828, and spent his early years in no unusual manner. He obtained a practical education and considerable knowledge of business, and until he

was of age he aided his father. After the removal to this State he was on the farm until he took up the labors of life for himself. A few years later he married Miss Catherine Jane Beckwith, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride, November 19, 1853. The union has been blessed by the birth of four children, namely, Warren, Deed, Helen and Adoniram J. Mrs. Gardner is a daughter of Philander and Melinda (McIntyre) Beckwith, who were natives of New Hampshire and New York, respectively.

Although never aspiring to public honors Mr. Gardner accepted the position of Highway Commissioner and worked for the good of the traveling public during his term of office. He gives his political allegiance to the Republican party and his support to the Patrons of Industry, in which he has been enrolled for some time. Mrs. Gardner is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and conscientious in her life.



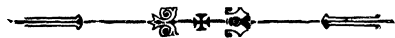
HENRY G. TINGLEY is one of the enterprising, public-spirited and intelligent agriculturists of Ionia County, and one who is meeting with decided success as a farmer and stock-raiser. He is located on section 12, Easton Township, on a tract of land comprising seventy acres which has been improved in such a manner as is customary to men of zeal and interest in their calling. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., March 1, 1850, and has been doing for himself since he entered his teens. His parents, Joseph and Lydia (Groff) Tingley, were of English ancestry, and his father was born in New England, while his mother is a native of New Jersey. The father is deceased, but the mother lives in Ionia County. She is now more than fourscore years old.

The parental family consisted of ten children, eight of whom are living and scattered in several States. Henry came to Michigan when thirteen years old and for some time lived in Jackson County, where he worked as a farm hand, receiving about \$15 per month for his services. In his native State he had obtained the rudiments of an education in

the district school, and after coming West he spent two winters in study. From Jackson he went to Montcalm County, where he worked in various capacities connected with the business of sawmilling. In 1876 he took up his abode in Ionia County, where he has remained, giving his attention to agricultural work almost exclusively. He lived in Palo nearly three years and located on his present farm in the spring of 1879.

The marriage rites between Mr. Tingley and Miss Azelia P. Shaw were solemnized October 17, 1877, in Fulton County, Ohio. The bride was born in Medina County, Ohio, December 2, 1847, and was a daughter of James and Minerva (Hall) Shaw. Her father was born in Massachusetts, and her mother in Virginia. The former is believed to have been of English descent, and the mother came of the Scotch-Irish race. Grandfather Hall was a soldier in the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Tingley have five children, whose record is as follows: Harry A., born September 4, 1878; Cora A., January 5, 1881; Fanny E., May 15, 1882; Della M., January 16, 1887; Annie, July 11, 1889.

Mr. Tingley is Overseer of Highways in district No. 2, and he has served as School Director. His vote is cast with the Democrats, and he believes that his party is far superior to any other. As he is still a comparatively young man he is likely to rank among the most substantial men of the county ere many years. Mrs. Tingley is one who as wife, neighbor and friend gains commendation, and both are popular in the society of their neighborhood.



WILLIAM M. ANDREWS. The mature years of this gentleman have been spent in this State and for well-nigh forty years he has been closely connected with the agricultural interests of Ionia County. His residence is on section 31, Keene Township, and his estate there consists of one hundred and eighteen and a half acres of well-developed land. He located on his present farm in 1866 and found it necessary to do much hard work before it was in the condition that he considered proper. A full line of farm buildings,

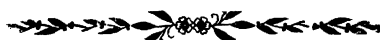
substantial and well-arranged, affords shelter for stock and such crops as the owner desires to keep from month to month, while a pleasant dwelling shelters the happy family—the whole affording evidence of the industry, perseverance and prudence of our subject and his faithful companion.

Mr. Andrews was born in Ontario County, N. Y., July 3, 1823. His parents, Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Sperry) Andrews were natives of Massachusetts and his maternal grandfather, Sperry, was a Captain in the Revolutionary army. In his native county he of whom we write grew to maturity, receiving a limited education in the schools of the neighborhood, and being early given a part in the farm work. In the fall of 1843 he removed to Kent County, this State, where for five years he worked as a farm hand. He remained there until 1854, then came to Ionia County, and twelve years later located on the tract he has since made so beautiful and remunerative.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Sarah J. Andrews, daughter of Lewis and Eliza (Godfrey) Andrews, occurred October 8, 1848. The bride was born in Ontario, Canada, February 11, 1830, but her parents were natives of New York. They had seven children and three grew to maturity: Mrs. Andrews, Joel and Phebe. When she was six years old they removed to Noble County, Ind., where the husband and father died. The daughter was in her tenth year when her widowed mother removed to Kent County, this State, and a couple of years later to Ionia County. In Keene Township Mrs. William Andrews grew to maturity and became a wife. Her mother is now living in Saranac; she married for her second husband Samuel Wells, but is again a widow.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews of this notice have two daughters—Marietta, wife of M. Sayles, and Harriet Ida, wife of Albert B. Smith, both living in Lowell. Mr. and Mrs. Sayles have three children—Ada, Pheba and Elva—and Mrs. Smith has two children, Emery and Gertrude. Ada Sayles married D. C. Miller and has a son, Merrit, so that our subject and his wife are great-grandparents, and Mrs. Andrews' mother makes five generations now living. Husband and wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Andrews is serving as Steward

and Trustee. He is identified with the Grange and is a Republican in politics. Mr. Andrews' reputation in business circles is that of a man who always does as he agrees and whose word is as binding as the bond of many. He and his wife, with other noble men and women by whose efforts the Grand River Valley has been converted from its primitive wildness into the splendid condition of to-day, are entitled to and receive the genuine respect of those who enjoy their personal acquaintance or know of the labors they have performed.



EDMOND HOOPLE, a native of Canada, resides on section 13, Ronald Township, Ionia County. He was born in Stormont County, Ontario, Canada, March 18, 1849. He is a brother of Alvin Hoople, whose biographical sketch will be found in this book. The first fourteen years of our subject's life were spent in his native place. Here he received his early education. He then was sent to New York State to make his home with an uncle, so that he might receive better school advantages. He attended school and academy three years, and then engaged as clerk in the leather business with his uncle and brother. After remaining with them four or five years, he went to New York City and kept books in a drug-store. Here he remained about two years and then went back to the leather trade for a short time.

In 1880, young Hoople came to Michigan and located on the farm where he now resides. This farm of one hundred and thirty-three and one-third acres of well improved land, he bought of Mr. Peter Whitmore. It had already on it good buildings and barns. The lady who is the presiding genius of his home, was born in Brookland, N. Y., July 16, 1849. Here she was reared and educated. Her parents, Henry and Jane (Latham) Radford, were also natives of New York. Their daughter Sarah became Mrs. Hoople, December 8, 1875.

Six children have come to this happy home, five sons and one daughter, named as follows: Ward, born September 9, 1876; Albert H., October 22, 1878; Joseph, May 3, 1880; Herman, November

22, 1881; Ella H., May 27, 1885; Edmond, August 14, 1887. Mr. Hoople is ever interested in matters of public affairs, and especially in educational movements. He is a Republican in politics, and holds the position of School Director.



DAVID ESCHLIMAN is a descendant of an old Swiss family who came from their ancestral home some two hundred and fifty years ago, to seek freedom from religious persecution in America. They belong to that class of Christians known Mennonites, and in Pennsylvania they found that religious freedom for which they sought. David is the son of Abraham Eschliman, who was a farmer in Lancaster County, Pa., and the son has found his home on sections 4, 9, and 10, Ferris Township, Montcalm County.

The father of our subject came from Pennsylvania to Stark County, Ohio, about 1837, and taking up a farm in the forest, cleared and improved it, making a home near Massillon. Here he became a prominent man, and was often selected for positions of trust, being many times chosen to administer estates, and act as guardian to orphan children. He had a keen intellect and was possessed of good judgment. These qualities united with integrity and a disinterested regard for the rights of the needy, gave him the confidence of all. He died in Ohio at the age of seventy-two years. His wife whose maiden name was Elizabeth Hurst, was born in his native county, and was descended from Holland ancestors who were also Mennonite refugees from religious persecution. Her paternal forefather was a man of large fortune, which he left behind him, bringing only enough money to purchase seventeen hundred acres of land, which he bought of William Penn at the rate of an English shilling per acre.

From such ancestry it is but natural that our subject should have proved the success in life which he has done. He is a man of clear intellectual perceptions, and especially brilliant in the line of mathematics. His children inherit this talent from him, and have proved adept scholars in this line

of study. The resolution and courage which marked his ancestors on both sides in those early days of trial, have stood him in good stead in the conflict of life, and have given him the ability to gain a beautiful home where he lives in prosperity and contentment. He was born in Lancaster, Pa., May 17, 1830. From there he came with his parents to Ohio, when only six years old, traveling by team and wagon with a colony of thirty-two teams. Clearing land and hauling logs occupied his youth much more than attendance at school, and some years he did not have more than twenty-two days in a year at his studies in the old schoolhouse where slabs took the place of benches. When twenty-one years old he took up the carpenter's trade, which he worked at for nine years, during the last five years of which he was foreman for a large contractor.

He first came to Michigan in 1853, and entered one hundred and sixty acres of Government land on sections 4 and 9, Ferris Township, but he went back again to Ohio and worked at his trade until 1860, after which for seven years he worked a rented farm in Ohio. During the war he saw something of the border warfare as he was at Canton, Ohio, at the time of the John Morgan raid. In 1867 he again came to Michigan, and located in Easton Township, Ionia County, until the fall of 1868 when he came to Ferris Township, this county, and located his home where it now stands. In those early days he found in hunting and fishing a recreation which relieved the monotony of clearing and hauling logs.

The home farm of our subject on section 10, covers one hundred and eighty acres, over one hundred of which he has improved. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres on section 9, and near one hundred on section 4, all nicely improved with the necessary farm buildings placed upon them. His residence is located on a fine natural elevation, and he has one of the most splendid stock-farms in the county, or even in the State. He owns a saw-mill at which he manufactures hard wood lumber. He carries a variety of stock, all of good grades.

The mother of Mr. Eschliman's children, whose loss he was called to mourn in November, 1886, was born in Ohio, where he married her in 1860.

She bore the maiden name of Harriet Rowland. Six of her eight children are now living, namely: Alta, a teacher in the schools at home; Emma, also engaged in teaching; Cora is attending the Edmore High School; John is residing in the Upper Peninsula; and Clara and Mary are at home.

The subject of this sketch fills many positions of public trust. He has been Commissioner of Highways, and was Township Clerk for four years, and School Director for six. When the new school-house was built in his district, he gave half an acre of land as a site for it. He is a demitted member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics is a strong Republican, being considered a representative man in his party, and being often made a delegate to county and State conventions. In his church connection he is active and zealous, being a member of the Church of the Disciples, and a Trustee of the same. When this church was building a new edifice, he furnished all the timber and lumber, and gave \$100 in money to aid in its erection.



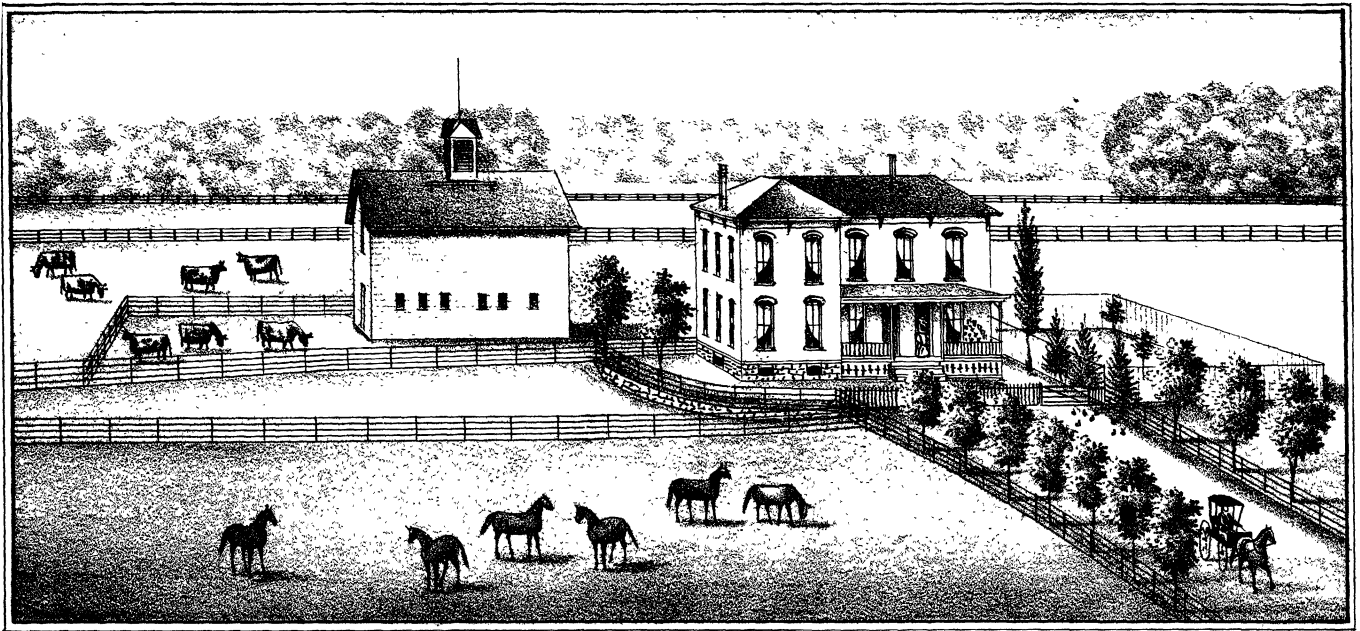
THOMAS GARDNER, now a resident of Lowell, has been a potent factor in the development of the famous Grand River Valley. He has risen to a position of prominence among the agriculturists of Ionia County, and may be considered a representative citizen. Financially speaking he is a self-made man, having begun his labors in life without any one to give him material aid and, in fact, having had but \$17 in money when he located in Keene Township in 1846. He now has two hundred and eighty acres of as fine land as can be found in the township, and has the place in excellent condition. The most conspicuous feature about it is a peach orchard of forty acres and an apple orchard of eight acres, the trees in which were planted by himself.

Mr. Gardner is an Englishman by birth, but an American by education, as he came to the New World when ten years old. He was born in London March 22, 1821, and is the eldest child of John and Ann (Turner) Gardner. His brothers and sisters now living are Joseph, Mrs. Mary A. Kin-

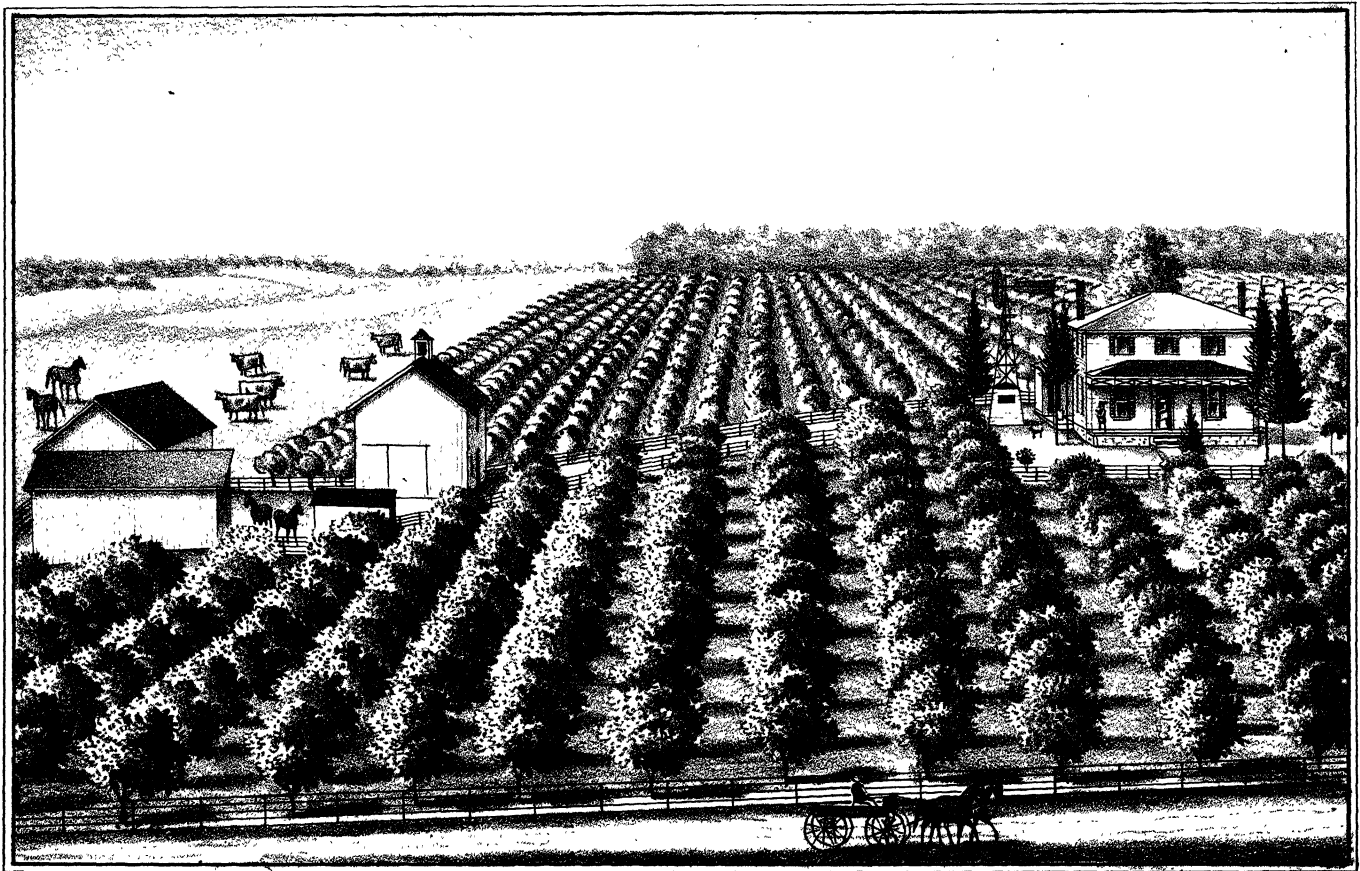
ney and George. When his parents decided to emigrate they took passage on a sailing vessel and after an ocean voyage of eight weeks landed at Quebec, Canada. Thence they went direct to Brantford, in the Province of Ontario, and there the father was engaged in the butchering business for several years, and subsequently kept an hotel for a time. Still later he farmed in County Brant, and there he and his wife breathed their last.

The subject of this biographical notice began his labors in life when young and has endeavored to supply the deficiencies in his early education by extensive reading in later years. He has been engaged in farming chiefly and has become skilled in his occupation and well-informed on matters connected therewith. When he settled on section 31, Keene Township, his dwelling was a log house and it was several years before he took possession of a better dwelling. He lived upon the farm over forty years and in the fall of 1887 moved into Lowell. The energy and perseverance of his nature and his thrift and industrious habits are well demonstrated by his possession of a fine estate and a pleasant home in town.

For more than thirty years Mr. Gardner had the counsel and aid of a devoted wife whose self-denial and courage during their pioneer life are gratefully remembered as instrumentalities in his success. She bore the maiden name of Maria Churchill and became his wife in the Province of Ontario, February 17, 1842. She was born in New Brunswick and died in Ionia County December 17, 1879. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and many friends mourned her loss and sympathized with her bereaved family when she was called from time to eternity. To her there had been born eight children, of whom we note the following: Richard, John and Wellington live in California and are engaged in the real-estate business and the sale of musical instruments; Eliza, the eldest of the family, now Mrs. W. P. Hard, resides in Boise City, Idaho; Julia is the wife of Prof. A. H. Smith, of Grand Rapids; Martha married B. R. Wheeler, and lives in California; Anna May, wife of A. L. Moon, lives in California; Dora is the wife of Edwin Smith, and their home is in Minneapolis, Minn. The others are deceased.

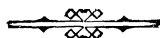


RESIDENCE OF JOHN F. MILLER, SEC. 18. BERLIN TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



FARM PROPERTY OF THOMAS GARDNER, SEC 31. KEENE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.

After having lived a widower until in October, 1883, Mr. Gardner contracted a second matrimonial alliance, wedding Mrs. Lydia J. Long. Husband and wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Gardner is a supporter of Republican principles, and is found taking a part in various projects which promise to increase the prosperity and happiness of the community of which he makes one. It affords us pleasure to present to his friends and acquaintances this sketch of a life that has been spent in an honorable pursuit, and that has resulted in worldly success and a reputation second to that of none in Lowell or vicinity. It also affords us pleasure to present to his friends a view of his fine estate, which ranks among the best in the community.



JOHAN F. MILLER. A boy who has in him the right spirit, who is manly and straightforward, courageous and enterprising, has opportunities to make a success in life, notwithstanding he may have had unfortunate surroundings in childhood and have been called to pass through numberless discouragements in youth. The subject of this sketch can remember nothing bright about his childhood. He knows that his father and mother were natives of England, and that his mother's maiden name was Forster. There were four children, two of whom are now living. He also knows the date of his own birth, March 14, 1826, and that London, England, was the place of his nativity. But he can remember no happy home fireside, no fond, endearing words and caresses. His first recollection is of being kicked and cuffed about from one place to another. He never had a home, for there are no homes in the slums of London.

The first effort Mr. Miller made to work for wages was in 1834, when he entered the service of a baker and confectioner at Gravesend, England. Here he was treated worse than a dog. During his three years' life with them he never knew what it was to sit down to the table to eat a meal, but his poor food was brought to him in the bakery and he ate it as he could. In the afternoons he had to

deliver bread around the city, and had a certain portion of work to do before 1 o'clock, P. M. The eldest daughter attended the shop and gave him a larger task than he could possibly accomplish, but when he failed to be ready in time for his round of delivery he was unmercifully beaten and kicked about. He was then sent up-stairs to get his loaf of bread, and here he would find the lame daughter of the baker, who alone gave him kind words and encouragement. Seeing that he had been crying she would pat him on the back and say, "Never mind Johnny, you will be a man by and by."

At the end of three years the lad left his tyrannical master and tried to get another situation, but could not because he had no recommendation. He then went aboard a fishing smack, where he had to bind himself as an apprentice to the owners for seven years. He hoped that upon the water he would have more freedom, but found that he jumped from "the frying pan into the fire." He could not have met anywhere with more cruel and brutal treatment, for not a day passed that he was not felled to the deck by blows. He had, however, one friend here, the mate of the vessel, Jones by name, who took his part, but he could not endure the life he was obliged to lead. He finally ran away and went to Sheerness, a government naval station in England.

Our subject shipped on board a twelve gun brig, "Espiegle," for the cruise as a second-class boy. The destination of the brig was China in 1844. He left Sheerness, touched at Ascension Island, thence to St. Helena, to Cape Good Hope, to Singapore, East Indies to Borneo Island, and Hong Kong, China. His vessel engaged with others in forcing the forts on either side of Boga Tigress and barriers along another river, up to the city of Canton. It took a week to clear the way to the moorings and let hundreds of inhabited junks and sampans float down the river, thus opening a way to Canton. The seamen were thus employed during the day, and at night went ashore with the sappers and miners undermining the walls of Canton. On a certain day all was ready for the bombardment of the city. Then the English Commodore sent word that if the gates of the city were not opened by noon he would fire upon the city. At

11 o'clock the Mandarins came down and negotiated a truce.

John Miller was at Nankeen, up the Yang-tse Kiang River and all about those parts. He remained upon the brig for five years and in the meanwhile was promoted through all the grades to able seaman. Upon his discharge at Sheerness, England, he was second-class petty officer. He then shipped in the merchant service as able seaman and made a trip to Batavia, Java Island, upon the ship "Richard Thornton," making two voyages to that port from London, England. Then he shipped on a coaster along the Irish coast for a short time. He left this vessel at Waterford, Ireland, and came to Liverpool on a packet, or passenger vessel, paying three pence for transportation, lodging and meals. He shipped on a six-hundred-ton brig loaded with coal for Acapulco, South America. They were twenty-eight days lying off Cape Horn, and each man was allowed only a pint and a half of water per day, no cooking being done for two weeks. They then bore away for the Island Juan Fernandez, where they expected to find no inhabitants. They reached shore at dark and anchored until morning, when they went ashore. They found there very unexpectedly two men, sailors, who had run away from a whaling vessel on account of the hard service, and having been unable to find food were nearly starved.

Not long after this favorable winds arose and the brig was able to make its destined port. The subject of this sketch had shipped to go to Acapulco and back, and was to receive for his wages \$10 per month. At Acapulco he went ashore and by chance met a young American sailor, who had come there upon a condemned passenger vessel. This new friend advised him to leave the Britisher and ship to California at \$110 per month. He stole away, and mingling with the passengers on the American barque, the "Talma of Salem," for two weeks kept very quiet and made himself known to no one. One day he was standing in the fore part of the ship when a man accosted him, saying, "Young man would you climb up and get those socks for me on the rigging." He promptly assented and did the service for the stranger. This man was Mr. Richard Vosper. They entered into

conversation and he confided his case to Mr. Vosper. It proved that he was one of the thirty gentlemen who had bought the vessel and were going to Panama. Our subject engaged to ship with him at \$100 per month. The law of Acapulco was that all hands upon American vessels must go to the American Consulate and register. This our fugitive dare not do, so Mr. Vosper, of Saranac, shipped as the sailor and John Miller's name was registered as passenger.

The captain of this barque was a poor navigator. The crew consisted of captain, mate and two sailors, our subject and a Dutchman. The American Consul refused to give the captain leave to sail unless he would take with him two Spaniards, to a place called Rio Leo, between Acapulco and Panama. There was no discipline enforced on the vessel, and all on board were shareholders except John Miller and the little Dutchman. Having been out about two months, they had been for a week lying on and off the coast, looking for Rio Leo that they might land the Spaniards. About sundown they saw a vessel close into the shore. They concluded that she was also bound for Rio Leo and that they might safely follow her, and as in a short time she was lost to sight thought that she had gone into port. In the morning they had imperceptibly drifted away, but they went sailing nine miles an hour in the direction which they ignorantly supposed was the right one.

When within four miles of shore they saw a channel, and our subject suggested that they were not where they thought they were, but as they all voted to continue in that direction they went ahead at a brisk rate and ran into a sand bar. No damage was done, but they did not dare to go farther in that direction. A boat was fitted out with six men to carry the Spaniards to land, and John Miller was one of the six. They left the ship at daylight, had a good breeze and in the afternoon found themselves at the mouth of the river. They saw a shanty on the bank and two Mexicans. They entered the river and going up four miles found themselves actually at Rio Leo, a new shanty settlement. A landing was made, and our sailors went on shore with the agreement to return to their boat at 7 o'clock next morning. When that

time arrived they could not find the little Dutchman, and after hunting for him in vain were finally obliged to leave without him. They returned to the ship, reaching it that night at 9 o'clock. The next morning at daylight they put to sea and made sail for Panama. When twenty miles off from land the man from the mast head called out, "A boat off the weather bow!" Changing the course of the ship they came up to the boat in an hour and a half, and to the astonishment of all found in it the little Dutchman.

At last they reached Panama in safety, and Mr. Vosper decided to take John Miller with him to Michigan. They crossed the Isthmus on foot to Gogonia, thence to Chagres in little boats and on board the New York Mail Packet to Havana. From there they set sail to New Orleans, and made their way to Cincinnati. Going on to Cleveland, our hero sailed out of that city on the lakes and made that his business during that year. In the fall of 1851 he came to Saranac and lived with Mr. Vosper. In the spring he paddled in a canoe from Saranac to Grand Haven, and all that season sailed on the lumber vessel "Lizzie Throop." He returned to Mr. Vosper again in the winter, and on Christmas Day he married Marilla Brant, a daughter of Mason and Almira (Tobias) Brant, both natives of New York, who came to Michigan in 1844 and settled on a raw farm in Boston Township. They cleared this off and sold it, and then moved to another part of the township. In 1850 Mr. Brant became smitten with the gold fever and went overland to California and entered the gold mines. He started to come home and died at San Francisco. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-six years. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living. Mrs. Miller was born August 30, 1836, in New York State.

John Miller now established his first home, buying a house at Grand Haven, but pursuing still the life of a sailor, he continued to sail on the lakes for thirteen years. The last seven years he was captain of a vessel. He has spent altogether thirty-one years on the water. He lived at Grand Haven for two years and then bought his present farm, where his wife lived while he was upon the lakes. In 1862 he enlisted in the navy of the United

States, and was upon the gunboat "Argosy," which operated upon the Mississippi and Red Rivers. At one time he had charge of a mortar boat. He took part in the bombardment of Vicksburg and of Ft. Dalrusie on the Red River, and of many masked batteries all along the river. He served until the close of the war, then came home and sailed one year on the lakes, after which he gave up the seafaring life and since then has remained on his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of six children: Mary, wife of Thomas Branson, lives in Berlin Township and has three children; Mason, who married Kate Buche and lives in Wisconsin, has one child; John married Lizzie Buche and lives in Muskegon; they have one child; Talbot is single and lives in Oregon; James E. married Ida Hull and lives in Wisconsin; Kirby is single. Mr. Miller is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Saranac, and his wife belongs to the Patrons of Industry. He is a staunch Democrat in politics. For many years he has been a director of the school district. He raises grain and stock and is actively engaged in farm work, having one hundred acres all improved. In connection with this sketch appears a view of his residence, which he built some ten years ago at a cost of \$3,000, while the barn cost \$400. He has triumphed over the hardships of his early lot and in his home life has made for his children the happy surroundings which he lacked in his youth.



WILLIAM MILLIGAN is a well-known contractor and builder of Ionia, Ionia County, this having been his home for many years, and there being many examples of his skill and reliability among its edifices. As a result of his well-directed and conscientious labors, he has acquired a good property, and what is better than silver or gold, he is everywhere well spoken of. He is an excellent citizen, always lending his influence on the side of right and justice, and ready to take a part in any project which promises to enhance the public weal, whether it be material or moral.

As the name denotes, the Milligans trace their genealogy back to the Emerald Isle, but the ancestors of our subject have long been residents of this country. His parents, William B. and Elizabeth (Stout) Milligan, were born in the Empire State, and his father was a peddler of Yankee notions in Cayuga County. The parental family comprised six sons and daughters, but two only are now living—Sarah and William. The former is the wife of Burr C. Andrews and their home is in Kirksville, Mo.

William Milligan was born in Livingston County, N. Y., December 1, 1828, and at the age of seven years went to live with his grandmother on a farm. Two years later he went to work for S. M. Jenks in Tioga County and continued to follow agricultural pursuits until he had reached his twenty-third year. He then learned the carpenter's trade with Caleb B. Olney, and having come to Michigan in 1856, he worked at his trade here until after the Civil War began.

Having decided that his country needed his services in the South Mr. Milligan enlisted September 15, 1862, in Company E, First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. He was enrolled as a private, became Corporal, then Sergeant, and at Atlanta was promoted to the rank of Orderly Sergeant. The regiment, in command of Col. Innes, left Marshall, the place of rendezvous, with one thousand and thirty-two men December 17, 1861. They were under orders to report to Gen. Buell and during the winter were engaged in building railroad bridges at Franklin, Columbia, Murfreesboro and other points, with headquarters at Nashville. During the succeeding campaign they had arduous work to accomplish, many bridges having to be built, fortifications erected, and repairs made along the line. At Lavergne, Tenn., in 1862, three hundred and fifteen of the number, among them our subject, withstood the enemy for five hours, or until darkness compelled the Confederates to retire. Surrender had been demanded but the reply of Col. Innes was, "I can't see it so long as my ammunition holds out." The loss of the regiment was one killed and six wounded, while that of the enemy was more than a hundred.

The regiment was officially commanded by Gen.

Rosecrans, who stated that they held in check a force of ten times their own number. From "Annals of the Army of the Cumberland," a work published since the war, we quote the following:

"While the battle was raging before Murfreesboro, a most brilliant and decisive affair occurred at Lavergne. The First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics had been left at that place to protect communication and had taken position on an elevated piece of ground in the rear of the village, surrounding themselves with a barricade of brush much in the nature of a common brush fence. The command numbered three hundred and ninety-one. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon Gen. Wheeler, who had been busying himself in destroying trains upon the road, suddenly appeared before Col. Innes' improvised fort with a force of about three thousand men and two pieces of artillery, demanding an immediate surrender. This was refused and a charge was made upon the garrison, but the rebels were spiritedly repulsed and driven into the neighboring thickets. Seven times the enemy attempted to carry the flimsy work and seven times they were driven back with heavy loss."

Mr. Milligan was in the fight at Chattanooga October 6, 1863; siege of Atlanta July 22, to September 2, 1864; Savannah November 11 and 21; Bentonville March 19, 1865. His recollections of tearing up track in places, twisting rails into corkscrews, and at others of laying track and repairing bridges, are vivid, as the regiment had much such work to do. He was in the service almost three years, his discharge bearing the date of July, 1865. After the war he returned to Ionia and resumed the arts of peace and since that time he has given his attention to contracting and building here.

In 1858 Mr. Milligan was married to Miss Louisa Kenney, who died of typhoid fever after a wedded life of a little less than two years. His present wife was known in her maidenhood as Miss Minerva Murray. This union has been blessed by the birth of four children, but the parents have lost two by the hand of death. The living are happily married—Bertha E. being the wife of L. P. Brock, and Edith L. the wife of George Tunison.

The first vote cast by Mr. Milligan was for Gen. Winfield Scott and this was followed by a ballot

for Gen. Fremont. He has continued to adhere to the Republican party, and without being a politician in the ordinary usage of that word, he is well posted and ably supports the party. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Church of Christ, and does with his might whatever his hands find to do, whether it be work connected with the social society or the church. He is equally earnest in business affairs, and in any other matter in which he takes an interest.



RUSSELL M. KELLOGG. The "Rushue Fruit Farm," of which this gentleman is proprietor, is located on the bluffs of Prairie Creek, Ionia County, three-fourths of a mile north-east of Ionia City limits. Mr. Kellogg is not only the largest small fruit grower in Central Michigan but an enthusiastic horticulturist and a recognized authority in all matters pertaining to the business. The reputation of his farm has extended over nearly the entire State and orders are often received from distant points to send choice fruits for some special occasion, while regular supplies are shipped to private families in Bay City, Saginaw and Detroit, and other cities. Probably no small fruit farm in the State contains so great a variety of fruits, and no expense is spared in its cultivation. For several years Mr. Kellogg has been engaged in improving leading varieties of plants by a system of selection until now he believes he can nearly double the crop on the same soil and cultivation. Every farmer and fruit-grower should send for his new book on fruit culture, which gives a full description of his method of cultivation and propagation of pedigree plants. Price fifteen cents.

The subject of this biographical notice was born at Boston, Ohio, May 19, 1843, and left home at the early age of eight years to begin work on a farm. For a decade he was thus employed, attending school in the winter months, and so obtaining a good common-school education. He entered the service as First Sergeant in Company G, Eighth Michigan Cavalry, October 10, 1862, and served

with the regiment until August, 1863. An injury received from a vicious horse caused his transference to Company B, Eighteenth Veteran Reserves. He was given command of the veteran company until March 23, 1864, when he was made Sergeant-Major. He was discharged December 12, 1865. In June, 1864, he had received a partial sunstroke, and after his discharge his eyes were affected thereby and he still suffers.

After his discharge from the army Mr. Kellogg traveled for five years, giving illustrated lectures upon the war and also upon geology. In 1874 he went to Battle Creek and with his brother, Frank J., established the Battle Creek Cutlery Works. He sold out his interest a year and a half after entering the business and took up the study of law, spending two years in the law department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor. He practiced at Grand Rapids a year, then went on the road as a commercial traveler, and was thus employed until 1883. He then settled at Detroit, intending to resume the practice of his profession, but as his health was not good he changed his purpose and in 1884 bought his present farm.

December 24, 1869, Mr. Kellogg was married to Miss Orrilla C., daughter of Rodolphus S. and Orrilla (Holman) Richards. Both were born in Connecticut, but the father was only a child when his parents removed to Vermont. Mrs. Kellogg was born at Portage, Ohio, March 8, 1844, and during that year her parents joined the pioneers of this State. As she grew up she turned her attention to teaching, which she followed in this State twelve years. She is a prominent worker in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, has been President of the Local Union, has also held the office of County President five years and is District Superintendent of Franchise. She has lectured throughout all the counties of this, the Fifth Congressional District, upon woman suffrage and the work of the Union, and has made many other addresses, notably those in the House of Correction at Ionia. By the State Suffrage Society she was invited to address the joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives on elections and judiciary, and subsequently to address a joint session of the two Houses of State Legislature.

She is a woman of strong intellect, and having no children to need her constant care—her only child, Burton Stanley, having lived only from March 6, 1873, to December 15, 1876—she has time to devote to public work.

Since 1884 Mr. Kellogg has been a Prohibitionist and he continues to take an active part in politics as he did in his old party. He was a candidate for Prosecuting Attorney in 1886 and 1890 for Circuit Court Commissioner in 1884 and 1888, and for Regent of the State University in 1886. He has taken a very prominent part in the workings of the Patrons of Industry and in its interest has made numerous public addresses and frequently been a delegate to county and State conventions.



WILLIAM R. JONES, the genial proprietor of the Hotel Jones in Edmore, Montcalm County, is as widely known as any resident of the place, and without doubt has as many friends. Connected with the interests of the town in several ways, he is manifesting a degree of zeal and ambition in prosecuting his work that makes him an example to the young and leads to a successful issue, schemes that in other hands would fail. As a hotel-keeper he has had but a limited experience, but his desire to please and his knowledge of the needs of the traveling public have started him on the high road to success. He opened the Hotel Jones in August, 1890, and already has a large commercial patronage, and is called the most popular host on the line. Of his other interests we will speak below.

The birthplace of our subject is the city of Jackson, at that time a much less populous one than at present. His natal day was February 26, 1842, and his childhood was spent in his native place, whence he was taken to Kent County in 1850. There he attended the district school and aided his father to develop a farm and there, too, he killed deer, bear and wolves, before the country was cleared and well settled. In breaking the soil of the raw land

he used six yoke of oxen and altogether he helped to break over a thousand acres. When twenty years old he began working out as a farm hand, and after two or three years felt justified in purchasing a farm in Oakfield Township, on the Montcalm County line. With his own hands Mr. Jones put up a board shanty in which to live while beginning the work before him. He had one hundred and twenty acres that he improved from the timber and on which he remained eight years, and until failing health compelled him to give up farm work.

Removing to Greenville, Montcalm County, he began the study of veterinary surgery under Dr. Gerls, and two years later went to Big Rapids and opened an office. He was the only "vet" within a radius of seventy-five or a hundred miles, and had to travel almost night and day to answer the calls that soon poured in upon him. In addition to that work he dealt in stock and he still carries on both occupations to some extent. In 1887 Mr. Jones came to Edmore and built a fine barn, 65x135 feet, with all conveniences, and put in a livery stock. He has as well kept an establishment as the county affords and does a flourishing business. "Doctor" Jones, as he is commonly called, is a lover of horses and a first-class judge of their qualities, as well as a practically skilled veterinary surgeon. He is now raising standard bred equines and has some fine stable horses, among them "Doc Jones," a bay Hambletonian with a record of 2:30. He also raises full blooded Jersey cattle and every year carries off the blue ribbons from fairs. He owns and has improved a farm of fifty acres in Home Township, which he superintends, and he has real estate in Edmore beside the stable and hotel.

Mr. Jones is of English descent in the paternal line, and comes of an old Hertfordshire family. His grandfather, Thomas Jones, was a man of means, extensively engaged in the stock business and also a butcher. A second Thomas Jones became a carpenter and emigrated to America when about twenty years old. He spent a short time in Buffalo and Toledo, then joined the tide of empire that was setting to Michigan and about 1838 made his home in Jackson. He was foreman of the force that built the first prison—made of tamarack poles—and worked at his trade until after his marriage

when he bought land and turned his attention to farming. He operated a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Liberty Township, five miles from the city, and in 1850 removed to Kent County. In Oakfield Township he improved three hundred and twenty acres and on that farm he made his home until death. He passed away at the age of seventy-one years, having wielded a strong influence for good over his associates and gained the good-will of every one who knew him. He was an old line Whig in politics and a Baptist in religious faith. Various township offices were held by him and he was an ardent worker in the Sunday-school.

The wife of Thomas Jones and mother of our subject was known in her girlhood as Miss Sarah A. Potter. She was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., and died in Kent County, this State, in 1881. Her father, Benjamin Potter, was a native of the same county as herself and was a farmer by occupation. He was an early settler in Jackson County, this State, and during the '40s changed his residence to Kent County, where he died at the age of four-score years, after having improved a tract of land there. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

In Oakfield Township, Kent County, April 1, 1862, Dr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Maggie B. Mallory, a capable and estimable Pennsylvania lady. The surviving children born of this union are Myrtie E., who married A. C. Morehead of Edmore, and Minnie A., who is yet with her parents. Both were given good opportunities to develop their minds and cultivate the graces of manner and of heart, and they fill places of usefulness in their circles.

Mr. Jones was the prime mover in getting a driving park in Edmore. He called a meeting of the citizens, presided as chairman, and saw that a stock company was formed, known as the Edmore Driving Park Association. With the exception of one year he has been President since the organization in 1885. The grounds are twenty acres in extent, and the track is as good as any in the country. It is a half-mile circuit. There were over five hundred stumps on the tract when it was laid out and Mr. Jones helped pull out every one. He is agent for the Chamberlain Stump Machine. In 1888 he was appointed by N. A. Porter, Deputy

Sheriff, and his duties are faithfully performed, he being fearless and courageous when there is call for his services. He has been Village Trustee and was Highway Commissioner two years. Politically he is a fervent Republican and he wields a strong influence in party circles.



WILLIAM DEGRAW, an old pioneer and respected citizen of Eureka Township, Montcalm County, was born in Seneca County, Lodi Township, N. Y., February 11, 1811. He belonged to a highly respected family which is notable for the long lives of its members. His father, Isaac DeGraw was a son of John who was born in France. Like many another young Frenchman, he sympathized with America in the Revolutionary War and after his removal to this country served in Washington's army through the entire period of warfare. His wife Leo Debrish was a native of Holland. She reared seven sons and lived to see one hundred and six years of life, and was hale and hearty in her old age.

The father of our subject was brought up in Seneca County, N. Y., and pursued the vocation of a farmer. He was drafted into the army near the close of the War of 1812, but was not called into active service. His religious belief was with the Methodist Church and his political convictions with the Democratic party. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mehitable Miller, reared a family of ten children. She died at the age of seventy years, but he reached the limit of four-score years and ten.

In his early manhood the subject of this sketch followed the trade of a carpenter. He came to Michigan in 1838, and settled in Washtenaw County, buying fifty acres of land. Somewhat later he added to his acreage until he attained possession of eighty acres. His first journey from Detroit to Washtenaw County, was made on foot. He traveled through dense woods and among the Indians. In the spring of 1853, having sold his place, he came to Montcalm County and bought the farm where he now resides. Upon it was a small

clearing and a little log house. Here he has one hundred and sixty acres, one hundred of which are improved. In 1854 he built a good frame barn, and his present comfortable home in 1862. He has carried on general farming and paid some attention to stock-raising and grain.

The good lady who presided with such grace and dignity over this rural home became Mrs. DeGraw September 24, 1834. Her name was Lorena Loomis. She was born in Yates County, N. Y., February 3, 1815. Her good parents were Thomas and Irena (Chub) Loomis, both natives of New York. The three children of our subject and his excellent wife are living and are the heads of families. Their names are: Evaline (Mrs. Smith), John and Earnest G. The Free Methodist Church is the religious home of this family and in its work and service they are active and useful. Mr. DeGraw lives a retired life and his farm is in the hands of a tenant.

He has been an earnest and hard-working pioneer and deserves great credit for his services in helping to develop the resources of the county. It is a delight to see the beautiful old age of this excellent couple who have lived in harmony for fifty-six years.



ANDREW LITTLE. Among the farmers of Ionia County who have been carrying on their work within its bounds several decades, may be mentioned Mr. Little, whose home is on section 8, Ronald Township. He has there one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, which he devotes to the purposes of general farming and from which he derives a good income. The land is carefully tilled, so that its fertility is kept up to par and whatever constituents are drawn from the soil are replaced by proper rotation of crops or the use of some good fertilizing agent. A good set of outbuildings is to be seen on the estate and a farmhouse that looks homelike and hospitable.

The parents of our subject were John and Catherine (Smith) Little, natives of Pennsylvania, in

which State they became husband and wife. They removed thence to Wayne County, Ohio, and from that locality came to Michigan in 1855. They made a permanent location in Ionia County and when they were called hence they were laid to rest side by side in the Woodard Lake Cemetery. The mother died in 1885 and the father in 1889. They had ten children, four daughters and six sons, and of this number three daughters and four sons are yet living. Andrew, who is the third child and eldest son, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 6, 1835, and remained in his native State until he was nineteen years old. His first schooling was in the home district and he continued his studies in the common school, giving the intervals of study to home duties until he had reached the age mentioned. He then worked by the month on a farm for two years and in 1855 came to this State. His journey was made in the spring before his parents came, and he bought eighty acres of unimproved swamp land on which he worked two summers.

At the expiration of that period Mr. Little went to work for his father, in order to help pay for the land his parent had bought. In the fall of 1861 he determined to enter the Union army, and enlisted November 6, becoming a member of Company F, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and as an integral part of that great body Mr. Little fulfilled the duties belonging to a loyal soldier, from a private to a commissioned officer, for nearly two years. He was only absent from the command six weeks, when in the convalescent camp at Nashville, Tenn., and at the end of two years he re-enlisted in the same company and served until the close of the war. The noted battles in which he took part were Shiloh, Corinth, Stephenson, Ala., Mumfordsville, Perryville, Mill Creek, Stone River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Chattanooga, Savannah, Averysboro, Bentonville, Goldsboro and Raleigh. At Corinth, Chattanooga and Savannah he was present during the sieges. He was one of the fortunate few to pass through all the dangerous experiences of camp and campaign life without receiving a scratch.

After being discharged Mr. Little returned to

his former home and the same fall was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Dixon. She was born in the Buckeye State November 3, 1842, and died April 23, 1875, after a wedded life of ten years. To the union there came five children: Mary C., who died June 3, 1869; Flora, who died July 14, 1869; Lora D., who breathed his last December 14, 1890; James E., who is attending business college in Ionia; and Forrest, who is with his father. A second matrimonial alliance was contracted by Mr. Little December 24, 1877, when he married Amanda Swift. She was born in Ohio January 13, 1838, and died May 27, 1881. Again Mr. Little entered into the marriage relation, wedding Mrs. Nina May Worden in 1886. The present Mrs. Little is a native of Ionia County, born in Otisco Township April 4, 1858, and reared in her native place. She is the youngest of five children comprising the family of Clark L. and Sally A. (Thompson) Demorest. Her parents were born in New York and made an early settlement in this State and still live in Otisco Township.

Mr. Little has borne his part in carrying on the civic affairs of the township. He was at one time a member of the Good Templar's Order and is still such in belief. His political adherence is to the Republican party. He and his wife belong to the Church of Christ and he fills the office of a Deacon.



SILAS FINCH. The acquaintance of this gentleman with the affairs of Ionia County began in his boyhood and during the '30s and he has passed through all the experiences that attended the development of this section. The far-famed Grand River Valley has been transformed from a region of wilderness, with here and there a cultivated tract, into beautiful farms and town lots, and in labor that has been necessary to accomplish this result Mr. Finch has borne a part as boy and man. The farm he now occupies on section 28, Easton Township, was taken possession of by his father when the family came hither in the fall of 1839. There a log cabin was built and the work of clearing begun, the young son aiding his

father as best he could and doing more each year toward the perfect development of the property. Many of the most prominent citizens of this locality belong to old New York families and were themselves born in the Empire State. This is the case with Silas Finch, who opened his eyes to the light in Genesee County, July 22, 1832. His parents were Isaac and Almedia (Kellogg) Finch, natives of New York and Connecticut respectively, and his father was a soldier in the War of 1812. The parental family was a large one, but our subject and Mrs. J. N. Hodge of the same township are the only surviving members. The father breathed his last on the farm he had worked so hard to develop, November 4, 1874. He was in early days an old-line Whig and later in life became a Democrat. He was a good citizen and an honest man. The mother of our subject died a few years after the family came West.

The subject of this biographical notice obtained the rudiments of an education in the schools characteristic of the days of his boyhood, and had not the privilege of a higher education. The deficiencies in his early training have been largely counterbalanced by his ambition to keep posted and the use he has made of papers and books. He devoted himself energetically to farm work and rose to a prominent place among the landowners of the township. He has now two hundred and twenty acres mostly under cultivation, where such farm buildings as are usually put up by a man of good judgment are to be seen, and such home surroundings as betoken the taste of his wife and family.

Mr. Finch was married to Miss Laura L. Mason November 12, 1861. The bride was born in Marshall, Calhoun County, November 12, 1842, but has lived in Ionia County since her childhood. Her parents, Louis and Sarah (Metcalf) Mason, were natives of Vermont and came to Michigan in an early day. Their last home was in Easton Township, Ionia County. They had a large family and six besides Mrs. Finch are now living. These are Alphonso, whose home is in Lake View; Roxy A., wife of John Day, living near Topeka, Kan.; Elisha living near Grand Rapids; Henry and Burdette, who live in Ionia County, and Alan-son, now of Osceola County. The family of Mr.

and Mrs. Finch consists of two sons and a daughter who are named respectively, Isaac J., Harriet J. and George S.

That Mr. Finch has been successful in worldly affairs his broad acres and comfortable home attest. He is a man of social, agreeable disposition, and his large fund of historical lore pertaining to Ionia County makes his society especially attractive to those who enjoy pioneer reminiscences. His wife is a lady of much intelligence, and the entire family take an interest in their own progress and that of those about them. Mr. Finch is a Democrat in politics. He is now serving as School Assessor.



GEORGE A. NEWTON. Among the early settlers of Ionia County who richly deserve the esteem of their community, is the gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs. He does not crave the exciting stimulants of political life, nor does he seek to gratify his ambition by reaching after high positions, but is rather one who enjoys the tranquil pursuits of agricultural and domestic life. He is farming extensively in this county, and his unremitting industry has crowned his labors with success.

George A. Newton is a prominent citizen residing on section 13, Easton Township, and is a native of Niagara County, N. Y., born April 22, 1831. He was a son of Ezra and Ann (Torrey) Newton, the father a native of Connecticut, and the mother of Massachusetts. His paternal ancestors were of English descent. When six months old our subject was brought by his parents to Michigan where, in Lenawee County, the family settled and endured the hardships of pioneer life; both are now deceased. The parents of our subject had a family of three children, who are living: David T., residing in Hudson, Mich.; George A.; and Catherine E., now Mrs. Carpenter, a widow, residing in Lenawee County.

Mr. Newton was reared to manhood in Lenawee County, this State, amid scenes of frontier life, and consequently did much pioneer work. He received the rudiments of his education in the early log

cabin schoolhouse, which was a representative of the schools of that county. The cabin was constructed of logs, with a puncheon floor and rude seats and desks, so as we may imagine school advantages at that time were not what they are now.

Mr. Newton was united in the holy bonds of wedlock with Charlotte M. Boulton, February 16, 1857. Mrs. Newton was born in Orleans County, N. Y., October 13, 1828, and is the daughter of William J. and Nancy (Kelley) Boulton, her father being a native of England, and came to America in 1812. He was impressed by the British into the naval service, on board of a man-of-war, but learning that he was to fight against people who were battling for liberty he deserted the British service. At this time he was in his early manhood, and he was afterwards made Captain of the militia of Lenawee County, Mich., and was familiarly known as Capt. Boulton; he died in 1885. The parents of Mrs. Boulton had a large family, and five children are now living: Mrs. Newton; Mary L., Mrs. Wells, now a widow, of Claypool, Ind.; George, residing in Palmyra, Mich.; Mrs. Haynor and Lucius J., living in Easton Township. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Newton has been blessed by the birth of two children: Owen E., residing on section 10, Easton Township, on a farm which is owned by his father; and Ella E., who is deceased, was born October 13, 1861, and died September 30, 1862.

In 1857 our subject came to Ionia County and settled on section 10, Easton Township, in heavily timbered lands, and here he was the first one to fell a forest tree. He took up and cleared eighty acres of land, where he has since remained. After the marriage of his son he presented the latter with forty acres of land, leaving himself with forty acres also, which he has splendidly improved. This farm is a standing monument of his industry and fine management. He is a self-made man, and in the accumulation of his property has been ably assisted by his devoted wife, who has been his counselor for years. They are representative pioneers of the county and have a warm circle of friends.

In politics Mr. Newton is a Democrat and has often been solicited to take offices of trust, but these he did not accept, preferring rather the

quietude of other lines of life. As early settlers this good family necessarily endured the hardships incident to a frontier life, but now they are enjoying the fruits earned by their hard labors. They are highly respected and are among the most worthy residents of Ionia County.



CHARLES O. JENISON, M. D. The life of this well-known physician of Greenville, Montcalm County, has not been without varied incidents and experiences that were not as pleasant to pass through as they are interesting in the recital. He was left fatherless at a very early age, and felt the necessity of aiding his mother, as she had been left without means. The history of his early life is that of a plucky, enterprising lad, who was determined to make the best of his surroundings and rise from an obscure position. He came of good families and had an excellent mother to encourage him in his aspirations, while the traditions of his childhood were an added incentive to him. Little by little he pushed his way forward until he was in a position to acquire a professional education and finally to enter upon the work to which his tastes led him.

Charles H. Jenison, father of our subject, was the son of Henry Jenisaw, a Spaniard who was driven from his native land and had his property confiscated on account of his political career. Coming to the United States he had located near Boston and changed his name to the form now used by his descendants. Charles H. Jenison was born in the old Bay State and became a prominent dealer in merchandise, carrying on his business some twenty years. Losses by fire and poor debts made him a bankrupt, and when he died in 1849, his widow and two sons had a hard struggle. His wife bore the maiden name of Martha Fales, and was a daughter of Joel and Ruth (Partridge) Fales, of Walpole, Mass. Her father was a manufacturer of iron, having a foundry and machine shops. He had a large family, fifteen in number, and six are still living, Mrs. Jenison being one of

these. Her paternal grandfather came to this country from Norway.

Our subject was born in Boston in 1843 and was six years old when bereft of his father, while his brother was two years younger. He entered upon his career by selling papers and blacking boots in the streets of his native city and staid with his mother until he was twelve years old. He spent the next three years in attending school, picking up odd jobs where he could find them and acting as errand boy in a store, thus making his attendance in the institution of learning somewhat irregular. He began doing chores for Dr. Bowdish when fourteen years old and worked for that gentleman two years. He continued to earn his living by doing any work which came in his way until he was fourteen years old, when he secured a position as chainman for a surveying party that went out from the Hub, and kept the place until the war began.

The surveying party was at Manchester, N. H., doing work which was to settle a land quarrel in court, when they heard that Ft. Sumter had been fired on. The second day of the firing on that renowned fort, young Jenison, then eighteen years old, enlisted in Company C, First New Hampshire Infantry. Three days later he was on guard at a gate leading to the soldiers' quarters and his orders were to let no one enter without special permission. Many were trying to get into the camp and finally the Governor of the State drove up and ordered the gate to be opened. Mr. Jenison replied that he had been given his orders to let no one pass. The Governor, who was accompanied by Minister Hoag, said, "You don't know who I am; I'm the Governor of New Hampshire." The reply of Mr. Jenison was to the effect that not even an ambassador from heaven would have the gate opened to him without the authority of the superior officers. He was asked to call the Colonel—Mason W. Tappan, United States Senator at the time—and did so. The Colonel rather roughly inquired what Jenison was doing and why he did not let the Governor in. He said, "I am obeying orders." The Governor was admitted and as his retinue passed he turned to the guard and said, "I will see you later."

The next morning young Jenison was relieved

from duty and sent to the Company's quarters by order of the Colonel. He went with fear and trembling to be asked, "Did you not know that you committed a breach of etiquette and that you must be punished?" Mr. Jenison responded that if in obeying orders he had committed a breach of military discipline he was willing to receive punishment. He was ordered to take off his coat and vest and told that he was to be measured for a strait-jacket. His measure was taken, the figures noted and he ordered to report to the Captain. At dress parade two days later the Adjutant ordered him to the front and center. The Governor was present and made an address to the regiment, at the conclusion of which he turned to our subject, and stating that he was to receive punishment for his action at the gate, handed him a Second Lieutenant's commission. The Governor's wife stepped forward and presented him with his strait-jacket in the shape of two suits of clothes, and Minister Hoag gave him his sash, belt and sword.

When the regiment broke camp Lieut. Jenison had command of the rear guard. As they passed up Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington in review before two gentlemen, the Colonel cried out to him, "why don't you salute?" "Whom?" "The President and Gen. Scott." The young Lieutenant at once halted his command, presented arms and saluted, then stepped forward and asked the President and General to excuse him as he had not known them. President Lincoln placed his hand on the young officer's head, asking him if he had a mother living and then if he had a father living. Receiving his replies, the President then said, "You must go home. You are too young to meet the incidents of war." The young man begged permission to remain and the Colonel spoke for him, by saying there was no fear of his disobeying orders. The President spoke of seeing him again, and after the troops went into camp on Kalomarina Heights, he had the pleasure of meeting President and Mrs. Lincoln, Secretaries Stanton and Seward and their families, and of being lionized to a considerable extent.

Lieut. Jenison took part in the disastrous battle of Bull Run and received a scalp wound from one of Lee's Black Horse Cavalry. After four month's

service he returned home, but the same fall re-enlisted, entering upon his duties as Adjutant of the Fourth New Hampshire Infantry. He took part in the battles of Port Royal, Beaufort, Fernandina, Jacksonville, Palaika, St. Augustine and James Island. At the last named, while acting as aid-de-camp for Gen. H. G. Wright, he was wounded in the left arm above the elbow. He was then sent North dispatches from Gen. Hunter and transferred to the Third Massachusetts Cavalry. In 1864 he reported for duty at New Orleans and was in the city six months, acting under orders from Gen. Banks as Commissary of Subsistence at the cavalry rendezvous at the head of Capitola Street. He then went on Bank's expedition up the Red River, during which he participated in the fight at Sabine Crossroads. He received an injury to his left hip, was sent to New Orleans and thence to Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, Mo.

When he was able to travel Lieut. Jenison received a furlough and the day he started East a young man named C. O. Denison died. The report was made of the death of C. O. Jenison, and that name was put on the stone that marked the resting place of the deceased soldier. A paper containing a notice of the death of C. O. Jenison reached the hands of our subject's mother, who was acting as an army nurse. He was soon able to dispel her grief, but after the war he was twenty-two years in proving to the Government that he was alive and not dead, and that the one letter which constituted the difference in the names of himself and the other soldier had made all the trouble. Dr. Jenison's brother, Henry J., also served his country, acting as paymaster in the navy. The Doctor was obliged to use crutches a year after the war closed on account of the injury to his hip. He was mustered out after Lee's surrender and returned East to fit himself for man's work in civil life.

The study of medicine was undertaken by Dr. Jenison under Dr. O. F. Seavey of Boston, but after a year's reading his eyes troubled him so that he was obliged to abandon it. He then became an attache of the Boston Theatre, one and a half years, after which he was able to resume his studies. He attended lectures at the Bennett Medical College in Chicago, Ill., and graduated at the end of a three

years' course in 1877, and upon leaving that institution began practice in Milwaukee, Wis. There he remained until 1882, when he sold out his practice on account of the health of his family and came to Greenville, and since his arrival here has taken a course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, Ill. He has built up an excellent reputation as a practitioner and has prospered in his worldly affairs, while he has taken a great interest in various social orders and matters which pertain to the advancement of the community.

While living in Milwaukee Dr. Jenison was Commander of Robert Shive Post, No. 2, G. A. R., and surgeon of the First Regiment of the Wisconsin Militia. Since he located in Greenville he has been chief mustering officer for the Grand Army one year and he is now surgeon of the Union Veteran Union and Colonel of G. H. Thomas Command of the same. He is also Captain of the Uniformed Rank, Division No. 16, K. of P., and belongs to the Odd Fellow's Lodge and the Royal Arcanum and the Foresters. In politics he is a Republican. Dr. Jenison is now Health Commissioner of Greenville, and is a strong advocate of temperance, having never drank a glass of liquor. He was married in the year 1867 to Miss Helen L. Trow, a resident of Nashua, N. H., and daughter of John and Dolly R. (Alden) Trow, natives of New Hampshire and England respectively. They have two children—Walter S. and Charles H. Both husband and wife have good standing among the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have a beautiful home and Dr. Jenison's brother is a prosperous farmer in Massachusetts.



WALLACE LOVEWELL. One of the best-improved farms in Campbell Township, Ionia County, is that owned and occupied by the gentleman above named. It is situated on section 24, and consists of one hundred and twenty acres, which has been reclaimed from the heavy timber mainly by the personal efforts of its present owner. One of its attractive features is a thrifty

orchard, and others are the good buildings—including a large and pleasant frame house and a substantial barn, and the well-graded stock which grazes over the pastures. Mr. Lovewell divides his attention between the cultivation of crops and the raising of stock in such proportion as is most common, and succeeds well in both branches of his work.

The paternal grandfather of our subject came to America from the mother country during the Revolutionary period. He made his home in Ontario County, N. Y., where Nehemiah Lovewell, father of Wallace, was born and reared to farm life. In 1831 that gentleman came to this State and located in Carrollton Township, Barry County. There he resided six years, after which he went to Jackson County, where he sojourned a few years. He had lost his first wife and in the last-named county he was married to Maria Hoyt, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was of German descent. The last abiding place of Mr. Lovewell was Woodland Township, Barry County, where he farmed until his death, December 24, 1864, at the age of sixty-four years and eleven months. He was member of the Universalist Church. His good wife still survives, her home being in the village of Woodland Center. She has reached the ripe age of seventy-one years, but is still quite smart and active.

Wallace Lovewell was the first-born of his mother, whose other children are Jane, wife of Robert McMillan, living in Calhoun County; Seth, a farmer in Cheboygan County; Orson, deceased; and Henry, whose home is in Grand Rapids. Our subject was born in Midland Township, Barry County, February 5, 1841, and reared on a farm there. He obtained a good common-school education in the home district and continued to assist his parents until he was of age. He then started out in life for himself at the foot of the ladder, and for four months worked as a farm hand. The war having broken out, he responded to a call for troops August 8, 1862, becoming a private in Company A, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, under command of F. P. Minear.

The Twenty-first was sent at once to the front and reached the scenes of conflict in time to take part in the bloody battle of Perryville. The boys

also fought at Stone River, soon after which, while on duty, Mr. Lovewell met with an accident which dislocated his hip and laid him up for a short time. After his recovery from the injury, he reported for duty and continued to discharge his soldierly work until through exposure, he was afflicted with pleurisy which was followed by sciatica rheumatism in one of his limbs. He was unfitted for duty, and for several months was compelled to use crutches. He was discharged March 30, 1863, and until the 1st of December was able to do little work.

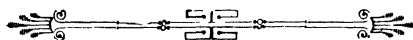
When able to re-engage in hard work, Mr. Lovewell came to Ionia County and bought eighty acres of his present farm. It was in a wild state, with the exception of four acres which had been cleared and upon which a small log house and barn had been put up. Establishing himself in the cabin he began the work of clearing and improving, year by year extending the cleared ground a little, and finally placing it all under good cultivation. He added forty acres to the original tract, and by degrees brought the property to a fine state as to its appearance and productiveness. Mr. Lovewell is looked upon as one of the most substantial farmers of the township and his course is noted as one worthy of emulation by others.

In his efforts to build up a good home and rise to a position of financial ease, Mr. Lovewell has been ably assisted by a good wife. Her maiden name as Phebe J. Crapo, and their marriage was solemnized August 10, 1862. They have six children, three of whom have left the shelter of the home roof, leaving Blanche, Cora and Orson to still brighten their parents' fireside. The first-born, Alma E., lives in Tuscola County, she having married Weller Root; George W. is now in Idaho; Eva is the wife of Simon Sears, and lives in Campbell Township.

Mrs. Lovewell is a daughter of David and Marcia (Soule) Crapo. Her father was born in Dartmouth, Mass., and was of French lineage. Her mother was also a native of the Bay State. Mr. Crapo lived in Ohio for some years and came from that State to Michigan in 1854. He located in Odessa Township, Ionia County, and continued his life-work, farming, there until death. He passed away December 31, 1878, and his widow survived until

August, 1885. There were ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Crapo, and seven are living, namely: Sophia, Hannah, Phebe J., Egara, Thomas H., Alma and Mattie.

Many changes have been witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Lovewell in the county to which they came in the early years of their wedded life. The greater portion of Campbell Township has been cleared and improved, villages have sprung up, railroads have been introduced, and the county has become well populated. They have an extended acquaintance, and are held in high esteem by all. Mr. Lovewell has supported the principles of Democracy since the days of Abraham Lincoln. He is Treasurer of Odessa Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and has been Quartermaster in his post.



AUGUSTUS R. WEEKES. Among the venerable and representative pioneers of the Grand River Valley and of Ionia County, who have been selected for a place in this ALBUM, none is more worthy of esteem than the time honored subject of this sketch. He is a typical representative of the noble class of men now rapidly passing away, who, when in their prime, settled in the wilds of Michigan and hewed down the dense forest, broke the virgin soil and by unremitting toil turned the forest into prosperous homes and populous towns.

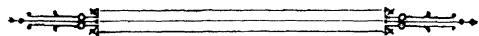
Augustus R. Weekes is a stock-raiser and farmer, residing on section 18, Keene Township. He is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., where he was born March 4, 1816. He is a son of James and Amy (Ostram) Weekes, both New Yorkers. His father was a surgeon in the American army during the War of 1812, and was at one time stationed at Ft. Niagara.

The subject of this sketch lost his father when very young, probably about the age of four years. When seven years old he removed with his mother and step-father to Erie County, N. Y., and at nine years of age was thrown entirely upon his own resources. He went to Ontario, Canada, and resided

near London for several years. He received a rudimentary education in the primitive schools of that region and has had to trust to his reading of later years to make him the intelligent man which he is to-day.

The first wife of Mr. Weekes was Alvira Barnes, who bore him ten children, of whom five survive, namely: Augustus W.; Frank, Alvira, Mrs. S. Van Duzen; Harriet, Mrs. L. Alger. His second wife, Jane Williams was the mother of five children, two of whom are now living—Marion and Lettie, who is the wife of E. B. Tripp. Mr. Weekes emigrated to Ionia County in the spring of 1847, and made his home, on what is now his present farm. He found an unbroken forest and built a log cabin 16x20 feet in which they made their home for several years. He owns ninety-seven acres of land and he has seen the wonderful progress of Michigan and its development from a primeval forest to a land of homes and cities.

Our subject has always espoused the principles of the Republican party and he is a wide-awake, public-spirited citizen. He has served in the School Board for many years and commands the respect of the entire business community, which rates at a high mark his honesty and sterling integrity. Both he and his noble wife are happy and contented in their declining years and they are considered as among the most highly respected members of society. He loves to recount the struggles of the early days, for he can recall many a scene of pioneer life, and tell how he used to cut and split two hundred fence rails a day. Long after his manly form shall be seen no more, will his memory be green in the hearts of those who knew him.



JAMES E. NEWMAN is a worthy representative of a family long known and highly honored in Ionia County, and one whose members have been connected with the business affairs of this section in a high degree. Three generations have labored here and in each the same characteristics—push, energy and persist-

ence, have been manifested. Milling has been carried on by them, and our subject follows the ancestral occupation, being one of the firm of Newman & Rice at Portland. Their mill is capable of turning out one hundred and seventy-five barrels of flour per day, besides custom work, and the product is excellent.

So much depends upon heredity and early associations that a clear understanding of the character of our subject will perhaps best be gained by perusing some facts in the family history. His grandfather, Elisha Newman, came from the Empire State to the Territory of Michigan in 1833 accompanied by two sons—James and Almeron. They located land the patent for which bears the date November 4, 1834. It was where Portland now stands, their first cabin having been erected on ground now covered by Kent Street. Hither Grandfather Newman brought his family in 1836 and here he died in 1849. The year of their removal, the Newmans put up a mill on the Looking Glass River, across which they built a dam. They had a millstone when they left their former home but it was lost in Lake Michigan during the transit and was replaced by another that is yet in the mill, although it has not been in use since 1870. The usual hardships were the fate of the family, but all dangers, toils, privations, were cheerfully endured and they were buoyed up by the hope of better days for their progeny, if not for themselves.

James Newman, father of our subject, married Miss Rebecca Hixson, a native of New Jersey, while he was born in New York, and to them came seven children. They were Hiram, who died in 1847; Mary, wife of N. B. Rice; Phebe, widow of Wilbert Smith; James E., of whom further mention is made below; William, who died in 1853; Isaac Newton, a pharmaceutical chemist in Detroit; and Almon, who lives in the same city. The mother breathed her last March 25, 1862, and Mr. Newman died April 2, 1877.

The subject of this brief record was born in the place he still calls home, March 11, 1844, and here he grew to manhood and received his education. During his youth he alternated work in the mill with farm labor, but from 1866 gave his attention entirely to the milling. With the spirit that ani-

mated his ancestors he has prosecuted his affairs, and reaped a due reward for his industry and perseverance. He has a good home, where comfort of mind and body is found by the inmates and all who cross its portal. It is presided over by the wife of Mr. Newman, formerly Miss Agnes Baker, to whom he was married December 4, 1862.

In exercising the right of suffrage Mr. Newman votes a Republican ticket. In religion he is a Universalist, and is identified with the social body—Ancient Order of United Workmen. The village in which he dwells has a special interest for him as the home of his family for years, and the scene of their pioneer labors, and as his own birthplace, and he is eager to see it advance in the rank of towns and put on the improvements of modern civilization. To this end he works, joining his fellows in projects that tend to that result.



JOHAN G. NEWMAN is a representative of a pioneer family of Ionia County and a native-born citizen, his birthplace having been Portland Township, and his natal day July 15, 1845. The country in which his father's farm was located was still in its infancy when he was born and like sons of other families he, even in boyhood, aided considerably in developing its resources. The district school which stood in the front rank among similar institutions afforded ample opportunity for acquiring a good common-school education and its advantages were well improved. In the intervals of study the lad worked on the farm and when it was proper for him to choose a calling he decided to continue that in which he had been aiding his father. He has a goodly tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in his native township, where he raises a variety of crops and domestic animals. He has been quite largely engaged in shipping cattle and feeds from two to three hundred head of lambs per annum for Buffalo markets.

The family of Mr. Newman includes a wife and three children and the home circle is still intact. Mrs. Newman bore the maiden name of Clarissa E. Palmer, which she exchanged for that she now

bears February 7, 1866. Her parents, Amasa and Rebecca (Lester) Palmer, were natives of the Empire State but came West in an early day. She is a woman of much intelligence, domestic skill and kindness of heart and faithfully discharges her duties as wife, mother and neighbor. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Newman bear the names of Mary A., Clarence A., and Henry A. The daughter was graduated from Portland High School in the class of 1887, since which time she has been engaged in teaching. She taught a year and a half in one district and then entered the Portland public school where she is meeting with the best of success, her time and talents being particularly devoted to kindergarten work.

Mr. Newman is a believer in the principles laid down in the Republican platform and always votes a straight ticket. In carrying on his business affairs he shows a commendable desire for progress and the energy that belongs to the better class of Westerners. He keeps himself well informed regarding topics of general interest and the issues of the day at home and abroad and adds to the credit of the name he bears by his upright life. His family belong to the Universalist Church at Portland.



BERT HAYES. The legal profession is well represented in Stanton, Montcalm County, as in other towns of similar size, by men of keen intellect, sound knowledge of the law and good ability as counselors and pleaders. Among the young men who are found in this profession here is the one above named, who is generally understood to be a studious and safe lawyer. He has been located in Stanton only since 1890, and in November of that year was elected Circuit Court Commissioner and entered upon the discharge of the duties of that office January 1, 1891. The profession which he chose is not only bringing Mr. Hayes into good repute in professional circles, but has been the source of a fair income during the few years in which he has been practicing.

The birthplace of Mr. Hayes was Weymouth, Medina County, Ohio, and the date of the inter-



O. D. Lawrence

esting event May 18, 1857. His parents are Alexander and Harriet (Watson) Haycs, who came to Allegan County, this State, some years since. The father had previously been engaged at the trade of a blacksmith, but after his removal he turned his attention to farming. He of whom we write is the youngest of three children and during his early years was given good opportunities to acquire knowledge and build up a strong character. At the age of seventeen years he left school and entered upon the work of teaching.

After a few years devoted to the profession of a pedagogue, young Haycs, at the age of twenty-three years, began the study of law in Gratiot County, and in 1886 was admitted to the bar and began active work in his new profession. In March, 1883, he was married to Miss Adella Blackford, a native of Kansas and a daughter of a Methodist Episcopal minister who came to this State in pioneer times. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have three children. Mr. Hayes belongs to the Masonic order and gives his political allegiance to the Republican party.



ORLANDO V. SHOWERMAN. The recollections of Mr. Showerman do not go back beyond scenes in Ionia County, to which he was brought when an infant nine months old. It was in the pioncer times when traveling in the Mississippi Valley was almost entirely accomplished with ox-teams, and when much of the territory of Michigan was but a wilderness covered with dense forests which were the haunts of wild beasts. Our subject's father and Resor Brown, who came West together, had to cut the brush from the Sebewa line to their locations. In a few days a shanty was erected in which the Showerman family lived for several years. Wolves were numerous and quite bold, sometimes even killing the young stock near the settlers' dwellings. The Showerman family, like others, suffered from bodily ills, and at one time the father gave his last cow but one to pay the balance due on a doctor's bill.

The subject of this biographical notice was born

in Genesee County, N. Y., November 5, 1838, and was the seventh in a family of eight children. Those who grew to maturity were Lucius, Cyrenius, Eugenia E., Deborah J. and Orlando. Eugenia is the wife of William Benschoter, of Nebraska, and Deborah, who has long been deceased, was the wife of Benjamin Probasco. The history of his parents is given in the sketch of his brother Lucius on another page. The schooling of our subject was necessarily limited and his attendance in the log schoolhouse covered a period of less than three months per year. The last term, in order to study under Allen Kimball, who was one of the best teachers of the day, he had to go three miles through the woods, but he considers the time well spent. He remembers when the howling of the wolves would make his blood run cold, and recalls with interest the return of his father from a Fourth of July celebration with the astonishing news that there were people there that day whom he did not know.

From the age of fourteen years young Showerman was quite a hunter and soon became an expert rifleman. The first day he went out alone he succeeded in killing a deer, and there was but one man in the vicinity who made a better record in the next few years than he. October 5, 1862, Mr. Showerman left his home and a young wife, to whom he had been married but a short time, but who bade him God-speed in his country's cause. He became a private in Company E, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, and being mustered in at Grand Rapids, October 11, went at once to the front. He served under Gens. Kilpatrick, Custer and Sheridan, at various times and took part in over forty of the sixty engagements in which his regiment participated. He was absent from the command at one time more than three months, passing through a hospital experience that was very irksome to him. Among the better known battles in which he fought are Fredericksburg, Snicker's Gap, Dinwiddie Courthouse, Spottsylvania, the Wilderness, Gettysburg and Appomattox.

After the surrender of Gen. Lee Mr. Showerman supposed that his mission was ended, but instead of being sent home, the regiment went to the Black Hills to fight Indians, under the leadership of Gen

Custer. They were kept there three months after their term of service had expired, owing to the unsettled state of affairs on the frontier, but were finally discharged at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., November 24, 1865. Mr. Showerman left the army as First Corporal, having served as a non-commissioned officer for two years. He never received a wound but incurred disabilities for which he now draws a pension of \$10 per month. Patriotism may be called a family trait among the Showermans, as the father of our subject, when more than sixty years old, served a year and a half as a member of the Twenty seventh Michigan Infantry.

At the early age of twenty-two years Mr. Showerman was married to Miss Emily Jewell, daughter of William D. and Sarah (Childs) Jewell, of Sebewa, formerly of New Hampshire, whence they came to Michigan in 1850. It was this faithful wife and true-hearted woman who gave her consent to her young husband's absence, and with an encouraging smile which belied her aching heart, sent him to the battlefields where danger and perhaps death awaited him. She shared his fortunes for a number of years, but bade him a final farewell December 2, 1883, when she exchanged time for eternity. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sebewa and was a conscientious and humble Christian. To her there had been born six children, four of whom are living, and two—Ernest O. and Myrtle D.—still at home. Ellen is the wife of Fred Collier, a farmer in Eaton County, and Elmer J. has recently gone to Montana.

August 3, 1884, Mr. Showerman was married to Susan McConnell, of Wacousta, who died March 27, 1885. She was a member of the Congregational Church at her former home. Mr. Showerman was again married, wedding Helen Merrifield, March 7, 1887. This lady is a daughter of Wilson and Rosanna (Howland) Merrifield, and has lived in Sebewa Township for years. Of this union there has been born a daughter Edna Rose, whose natal day was April 12, 1888. The present Mrs. Showerman belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sebewa, and her husband is a member of the same congregation. She has a thorough understanding of domestic arts and a pleasing disposition.

In the affairs of the township Mr. Showerman has been quite prominent, always manifesting an interest in that which would promote the welfare of the citizens. He has served five terms as Treasurer. Although a Democrat, he is not ultra in his political views; he voted for Abraham Lincoln and has never regretted that step and he favors prohibition and anti-monopoly. For the share which he has had in the development of the country, for the interest he has taken in the general good, and for his upright life, he is respected by all who enjoy his acquaintance.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Showerman appears on another page,

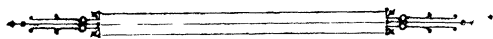


AUGUSTUS T. CALL, Postmaster, express agent and attorney at Lake View, Montcalm County, was born at Andover, Alleghany County, N. Y., August 23, 1848. He is a son of the Rev. Orlando B. and Caroline C. (Crandall) Call, natives of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. They were married in New York State where Mr. Call was a Baptist minister. In 1860 he came to Michigan and locating in Ingham County bought a farm in Alaedon Township, and settling his family there pursued the double vocation of farming and preaching. For forty-five years he was actively engaged in the ministry. He died in Ingham County in 1872 at the age of sixty-four years and his good wife followed him in 1882. These parents had eleven children, namely, John, Jesse, Sarah A., Jane, Henry, Harrison, Caroline, Augustus, Clay, Esther and Lorenzo.

The subject of this notice was twelve years old when he came with his parents from his native town to Michigan. Here he remained on his father's farm until July 8, 1863, when he ran away from home and enlisted in the army as a private in Company H, First Michigan Sharp Shooters. He served with the Army of the Potomac until the close of the war. He was mustered out and received his honorable discharge at Jackson, Mich., in August, 1865. He was in all the campaigns

with the Army of the Potomac after the battle of Spottsylvania and was wounded by a gunshot on the North Anna River, Va., at Gaines' Mill; this put him in the hospital from June until September, 1864. He went into the service before he was fourteen years old and was never taken prisoner.

After the war young Call returned to Ingham County and remained there until 1876 when he came to Lake View and began practicing law. He had been reading law with Huntingdon & Henderson, of Mason City, Ingham County, and was admitted to the bar June 29, 1875, at Mason City. He practiced law in Lake View about six years and then engaged in the mercantile business at the same place until 1882 when he was made express agent. He was in the collecting business as well as filling the office of Justice of the Peace. He has held the position of Postmaster since July, 1888. He was Village President twice, is a Republican in politics and belongs to Andrew Macomber Post, G. A. R. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a Knight Templar.

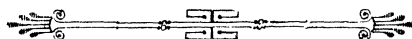


LEWIS F. CUTCHEON, whose biographical record we have given us, lives an industrious and useful life and seeks to perform faithfully whatever duties fall to his lot. During his career he has won and maintains the confidence of his associates, and in the Masonic order of which he is a member, he is considered faithful and is much esteemed.

Our subject was born in Detroit, Mich., July 9, 1856, and is the son of Franklin M. and Mary Stone Cutcheon, natives of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, respectively. Franklin, his father, was a shoemaker in Lynn, Mass., and followed this business during the greater portion of his life. In 1855 he came to Detroit, where he remained but a short time, returning to Massachusetts. Becoming dissatisfied there he again came to Michigan in 1868, locating in Portland, where he has since lived. Under Arthur's administration he was appointed Postmaster at this place, and has been in no regular business since. To himself and wife were born six

children: James Clarence, a machinist, who lives in Lynn, Mass.; Lewis F.; Anna, wife of F. R. Savage, a resident of Lansing, Mich.; Hattie, who is at home; Nora, wife of Edward LaSalle, a farmer in Ronald Township, this county; and Josephine attending the State Normal School at Ypsilanti. Lewis F. lived in Massachusetts until thirteen years of age. He then came West with his parents. He came to Portland where he attended school until he was seventeen years of age, when he entered the office he now owns as an apprentice. J. W. Bailey at that time was owner of a paper called the *Observer*. In this office he worked for Bailey five years. He then went to Detroit, where he worked on the daily *Tribune* and in Scripps' job office three years. He then returned to Portland. From there he went to Belding where he aided in getting out the second issue of the *Belding Telegram*. Thence to Manistee, where he was in the postoffice two years.

In 1881 Mr. Cutcheon edited and published the Montcalm County *Republican*, remaining here a year and a half. Again he returned to Manistee as assistant Postmaster four years. In 1886 he again came to Portland and bought the office of the *Observer*, which he has since edited. He was married to Miss Carrie Cromwell, of Amsterdam, N. Y., November 4, 1885. His wife was the daughter of S. J. and M. E. Cromwell. He is a member of the Masonic order both of the Blue Lodge and Chapter, and also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.



LEVI A. BOICE, a prominent young man of McBride, Montcalm County, is a member of the firm of Boice & Lewis, who carry on general merchandise and operate a shingle mill, in Day Township, two miles west of McBride. He is also Township Clerk. His father was Judson A. Boice, born in Massachusetts of French descent. The name was formerly DuBoice, but the family, like many other families of refugees from France dropped the aristocratic title when they found their homes in this free Democracy. The family is de-

scended from the traditional three brothers who came together from across the sea.

After the father of our subject had emigrated from Massachusetts to Ohio, he learned the trade of a harnessmaker and carried on that business there. In 1857 he came to Michigan and located in Jamestown, Ottawa County, where he bought land in the timber, built a log house and proceeded to clear the trees from his eighty acres. He was a great huntsman and shot many a fine deer. In 1868 he sold out here and located in Hastings, Barry County, where he bought a farm and resided until his death in 1880 at the age of fifty-five years. His wife, Mary A., daughter of William O'Dell, was born in Ohio. Her grandfather was a soldier in the War of 1812 and her great-grandfather fought in the War of the Revolution.

The parents of our subject had a family of five children: Ila, (deceased); Edgar, Clinton S., our subject and William. Their son Levi was born near Jamestown, Ottawa County, Mich., December 5, 1862. In 1868 the family removed to Barry County, where the boy grew up on the farm and after studying in the district school attended the Hastings High School. When eighteen years old he engaged in teaching, first at Grand Rapids and then two terms near the home district. In 1882 he entered the commercial college at Grand Rapids. Completing the course, he took a position as bookkeeper in the lumber business at Gowan. In 1885 he became bookkeeper in the lumber office of Mr. Crosby at McBride. Here he remained until 1889 when he bought out the stock of general merchandise, owned by C. H. LaFlanboy and went into partnership with J. McLennan, under the firm name of Boice & McLennan. This partnership lasted only one year and then Mr. Boice ran the business alone until January 1, 1891, when he went into partnership with Mr. Lewis. Besides a line of dry goods and groceries they carry an excellent stock of boots and shoes and deal in flour, feed and hay. They also own a shinglemill, situated on sixty acres of land two miles west of the town.

Mr. Boice was happily united in marriage October 20, 1888, with Miss Hattie E. Coats, who was born in Jamestown, Mich., and is a daughter of George W. Coats, an early settler of Ottawa

County. Mrs. Boice is a graduate of the Grand Rapids Commercial College. They are earnest and devoted members of the Adventists Church. In 1889 our subject was elected Township Clerk for a second term and he also fills the office of Village Clerk. As a Democrat he is a frequent delegate to county and State conventions. He has already made his mark in the community and is popular with every class.



THOMAS TAYLOR, an old settler of Easton Township, Ionia County, is a native of Lancashire, England, where he was born October 3, 1827. He is a son of Thomas and Hannah (Wright) Taylor, both natives of England. His father died when he was a babe of three months, and he lost his mother when seventeen years of age. In consequence of these deprivations he received but a limited education, but like many another poor boy, improved his scanty opportunities and attended night schools and Sunday-school, and gained much in this way.

The young man emigrated to America in 1847, taking passage at Liverpool on a sailing vessel; and after a voyage of seven weeks and three days, he landed in New York City. He resided in New York State several years, being employed on a farm and in other labor. In the fall of 1855 he came to Ionia County, Mich., and settled on the place where he now resides in Easton Township. He and his good wife, Mary, daughter of Orrin and Cynthia (Lee) Jordan, have been the parents of ten children, namely: Cynthia, wife of Frank Weber; Thomas; Eva, wife of Jeremiah Conner; Ida M., George, Benjamin and Ella. The children who are deceased were as follows: Lee, Hannah and William. Before his marriage Mr. Taylor kept bachelor's hall in the woods along with his friend, Isaac Strong. The splendid condition of his farm is a standing memorial to his industry and efforts as a pioneer.

Mr. Taylor is a Democrat in politics, and a wide-awake and public-spirited citizen, being strongly in favor of all measures which will elevate the com-

munity. His home farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres of land, and he has in all over three hundred and twenty acres. He possesses many of the virtues and sterling characteristics of his sturdy British ancestry, among which are pluck, industry, and a determination to success in life. He is a man of broad views on social and political topics, and is considered well-informed. He and his interesting family are highly respected members of society. His unflinching integrity commands the confidence of the business community, and we take pleasure in representing Mr. Taylor among the leading British-American citizens of Ionia County. He is a true type of the best characteristics brought from that sturdy old isle, the cradle of modern liberty and the world's only great and successful colonizer.



HENRY J. HALL. The farm of this gentleman is one of the most attractive in Ionia County, not on account of its size but on account of the pains that have been taken to cater to the comfort of those who occupy and operate it. It lies on section 36, Orleans Township, and consists of one hundred and five acres, ninety of which are improved. The dwelling is well-built, of pleasing design and of home-like appearance, and the barn is commodious and substantial, while minor buildings complete a scene in keeping with the background of trees and cultivated fields.

The direct progenitors of Mr. Hall are Joshua S. and Sarah A. (Haight) Hall, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this volume. His birth occurred in Ionia Township August 28, 1843, and he lived at home until he was of age, then worked by the month for some time. His first purchase of real estate was ninety-eight acres of his present farm, and to this he subsequently added forty, but later reduced it by selling a small tract. He not only does general farming but is a breeder of Short-horn cattle and Merino sheep, and to his work he brings energy and skill.

The efficient and amiable woman with whom Mr. Hall was united in marriage in Orleans Township,

April 12, 1865, bore the maiden name of Cordelia M. Higbee. She is a daughter of Benjamin F. and Laura M. (Goodwin) Higbee, who were born in New York and came to this State about 1837. They are members of the Baptist Church in Ionia, and Mr. Higbee belongs to the Grange. Besides Mrs. Hall their children are Sarah F., Laura L., Chancellor E., Chancy E., Charles G. and Antoinette. To Mr. and Mrs. Hall two sons have been born—Guy A. and Ray E., but only the elder is with them, as Ray died when seven years old.

Mr. Hall has been a member of the Patrons of Husbandry for twelve years and is one of the charter members of the subordinate Grange, of which he was the first Master. He has also been its Secretary, Treasurer and Lecturer, as well as Master of the county Grange. At present he holds the position of Overseer in the township Grange and Lecturer in the county association, and has been the purchasing agent for five years. He is one of the Board of Directors of the Ionia District Agricultural Society, is Township Treasurer and for eight years has been Justice of the Peace, and also served as Drainage Commissioner during one term. From his first vote Mr. Hall has been an unflinching Republican. He and his wife belong to the Christian Church at Woodard Lake, Ronald Township. In 1884 Mr. Hall took a trip to New Orleans to visit the International Cotton Exposition, and in 1888-89 he and his wife visited friends in California and Kansas.



GEORGE S. COOPER, of Ionia, was born in Paris, Oxford County, Me., January 27, 1830. His mother was a Maine woman and bore the maiden name of Rebecca Mathews. His father, John Cooper, was a native of Plymouth, Mass. For three generations the Coopers had been residents of that State, and were of English extraction. The father of our subject was a tiller of the soil. To him and his wife were born eleven children, nine of whom are still living, as follows: Olive, wife of Cyrus H. Ripley, of Maine, who is connected with the custom house at Portland; Eliza,

the wife of Isaac H. Thayer, a stock-raiser in Wyoming; Sarah, the widow of Milo Pierce, of Ionia; our subject; Roxanna, wife of Sergeant Daniels, of Boston, Mass.; William K. is living in Battle Creek, and carries on a business in boots and shoes; Jeannette, wife of Dr. W. Belding, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a member of the Belding Bro's. silk firm; Jarvis C., of Ionia is a painter; and Arabella is the wife of George Jackson, of Ionia, who follows the same business. One child died in infancy, and another a son John, at the age of twenty-eight years. The Coopers came to the West just at the close of the Civil War. Mr. Cooper died in Ionia, in January, 1884. His widow celebrated upon Washington's birthday this year, the completion of her ninetieth year.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch, early took hold of the work of the farm and continued on it until eighteen years of age. He attended school at the South Paris Academy until he reached his majority, taking the regular course of study prescribed in the curriculum of that institution. He then went to Boston and engaged for two or three years in the mercantile business, which he followed after coming West, being engaged in that occupation in Dartford, Wis., after going there in 1854. He remained there until 1860, when he came to Ionia, and opened a store, known as the New England store, where he still continues in business, corner of Main and Second Street. He took for his wife a daughter of his native State, Florinda Royal, a daughter of Solon Royal, a Baptist minister. The marriage took place October 25, 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have not been blessed with children of their own, but feeling unwilling to pass by the claims of homeless childhood, adopted and brought up a son and a daughter. The son is now at Big Rapids, Mich., a conductor on the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad. The daughter became the wife of Charles H. Putney, and died May 14, 1890. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Cooper is a Knight Templar in the Masonic order. In politics he was formerly a Democrat, and voted this ticket until the tariff question became prominent in 1886, when he joined the Republican party, as he believes strongly in protection. He has also been

a member of the Democratic State Central Committee for two terms. Notwithstanding his Democratic tendencies, he cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln as President in both the National Campaigns which resulted in the election of Mr. Lincoln. Mr. Cooper is a prosperous man and a public-spirited citizen. His store is fine in all its appointments and he does an excellent business. His affable, courteous manner makes him many friends, and his character and reputation for judgment entitle him to the respect of the community, which he has received in a large measure. This has been shown by the positions to which he has been elevated. He was the President of the village of Ionia in its days of village organization. He was Mayor of that city in 1884, Alderman for eight or ten years, member of the School Board for ten years, and member of the Board of Public Works from 1886 to 1889.



DARIUS MULHOLLAND, a prosperous farmer of Montcalm County, encountered many hardships while making a start in life and in subduing the wilderness. When he took his homestead in 1884 it was eighty acres of timbered land with a rude log cabin upon it and forty acres partly cleared. It is now beautifully improved and the land in a high state of cultivation. All this has been accomplished by his strenuous exertions joined to the strictest economy and a sterling integrity which have given to him the confidence of his neighbors. He was born in Wentworth County, Canada, April 15, 1840. His parents, John and Rachael (Shaver) Mulholland, carried on farming in Canada and this boy learned from earliest childhood the practical arts of agriculture. He was early inured to the hardships and hard work and cheerfully undertook all that came to his hand. His educational advantages were limited to the rudiments which could be obtained in a country school. In 1859 he chose as his wife Rachael Blasdel who is also a native of Wentworth County. Their union has been a happy

one and three children have come to brighten their home and to be their support in the coming years of their old age. They are, namely: Minnie A. born April 21, 1861; Harvey, born June 13, 1863, who married Letitia Rice, and lives on the home farm, and Daniel W., born January 14, 1865.

This worthy family suffered a terrible affliction in the death, by accident, of the youngest son—Daniel W. He met his death in a gristmill in Burford Township, Wentworth County, Canada, by being caught in the machinery. The daughter became the wife of J. B. Clement and resides in this county. The family home of the Mulhollands is a beautiful house of twelve rooms and on the well-cultivated farm are placed two large barns. It is all neatly fenced and a good orchard supplies plentiful fruit. Mr. Mulholland is entirely free from debt and manages his affairs with prudence and success. In point of politics he is a staunch Republican and takes great interest in the prosperity of the party. Both he and his good wife have for many years joined their interests with that of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they have made themselves beloved and respected.



ADDISON W. STRONG. Success generally marks the efforts of the man who, in early life acquires the habits of industry, perseverance and self control. We find many a youth equipped with the possession only of these traits of character. Later on in life in the maturity of manhood we find this youth often successful and wealthy. Our subject passed through these vicissitudes, and is now a prominent manufacturer of Ionia County. Mr. Strong is a dealer in cider, vinegar, and cider jelly, and is a native of Calhoun County, Mich., and was born March 11, 1847. He is a son of Nelson and Caroline Strong, who were both natives of New York, and probably some time in the '40s his parents emigrated to Calhoun County, this State. Here they settled and remained until the time of their death.

Of seven children born to the parents of our subject, five survive and are living in this State: Rich-

ard B., residing in Belding; Harrison F. living in Jackson; Addison W.; Caroline, wife of Charles Cooper, residing in Jackson; and Lucinda, wife of George Clothier, living in Burlington, Mich. The father of our subject served as Township Treasurer of Burlington Township, Calhoun County, and in politics was a Republican. Like most of the pioneers of Michigan, he was obliged to endure some hardships.

The boyhood days of Mr. Strong were spent in his native State, and amid the scenes of frontier life. His youth was spent on a farm. He received a good education in the district and select schools of Calhoun County, and being a great reader, he informed himself upon the general topics of the day. In 1876 Mr. Strong came to Ionia County, and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Orleans Township, and also ran a cider mill in connection with his farming pursuits. In the spring of 1885 he located at his present place of residence, where he is now engaged in making cider vinegar and jelly, and also in buying and shipping apples.

Our subject was united in marriage April 19, 1875, with Miss Mary N. Higbee, whose birthplace was in Orleans Township, and her natal day being June 2, 1848. Mrs. Strong is a daughter of John and Esther Higbee. Her parents were among the first settlers of Orleans Township, coming to this county in 1838, and her father built the second frame house in this vicinity. In politics her father is a Democrat.

The parents of Mrs. Strong had a family of nine children, seven of whom are living: Helen M., wife of V. J. Martin, a resident of Lake View, this State; Mrs. Strong; Julius A., living in Buffalo County, Neb.; Flora M., wife of D. J. Penny, living in Isabella County; Edward, residing in Orleans Township; and Frederick J. living in this county.

There have been born to our subject and his worthy wife five children, only three of whom are living—Maud S., Claud and Harry E. The deceased are Mabel and Hubert. Mr. Strong is identified with the Church of the Disciples. His chosen line in politics is Democratic, and he has served as Justice of the Peace. He is capable and enterprising, and is meeting with great success. Mr. Strong is one of the leading business men of Easton Town-

ship, and his fine abilities are securing for him great rewards in the financial line. Mrs. Strong is a daughter of an old time-honored pioneer of Ionia County, and is a lady of intelligence and great hospitality. We takes pleasure in representing this esteemed family in this work.



JOSEPH GARDNER. The results of unflagging perseverance, prudent economy, and good habits, probably find no better exponent in Ionia County, than in the above-named gentleman, who is a representative citizen of Keene Township. He is the owner and occupant of a fertile estate, upon which are to be seen the usual farm buildings, but of better construction than many, while the appearance of fences and fields give the impression that Mr. Gardner understands tilling the soil and caring for the produce of his farm. In a quiet and unassuming manner Mr. Gardner has pursued his way in life, conscientiously discharging the duties which lay in his pathway, accumulating a comfortable share of this world's goods, and gaining the esteem of all who know him.

A native of London, England, Mr. Gardner was born September 12, 1828. He is a son of John and Mary (Turner) Gardner, who emigrated when this child was about four years, old to Upper Canada, where they settled in Brant County, Ontario. There the parents died, leaving a large family of children, of whom the following survive: Thomas; Mary, now the widow Kinney; Joseph, George H. and Robert. Our subject grew to manhood amid the pioneer scenes of Canada, and has been a life-long farmer. He received his rudimentary education in Canada and had few advantages in the line of education.

An important event in the life of our subject took place June 1, 1853, when he was united in marriage with Ellen Durant. She became the mother of nine children, seven of whom are living, and they were named as follows: Mary A., deceased; Joseph A., John, James, Emily, (Mrs. John Cron-

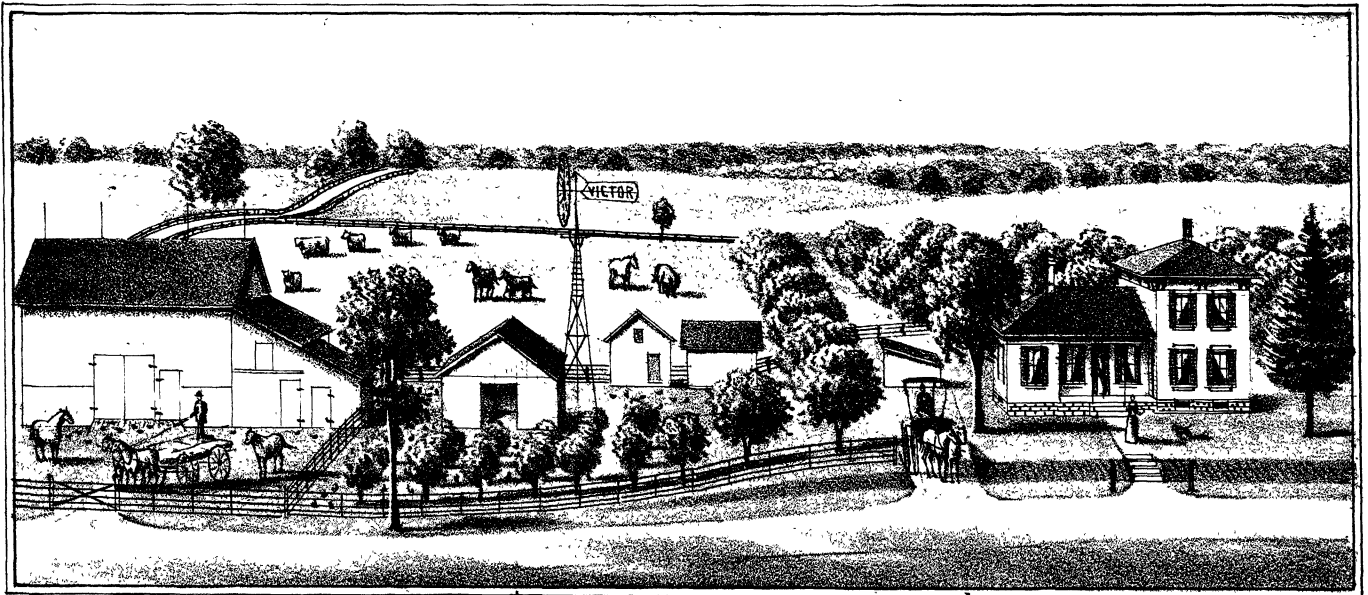
inger), Matilda, wife of William Foster, Mary A., wife of Alfred Bowen, Louisa and Thomas (deceased).

In 1859 with his family our subject migrated to Michigan, and coming to Keene Township, Ionia County, settled on section 8, where he lived for a number of years. He then took the farm where he now resides on section 5, of the same township. When he took the farm it was practically in the woods, and he built it up to its present highly cultivated condition. He has one hundred and sixty acres of land under excellent cultivation, and endured the usual hardships incident to pioneer life.

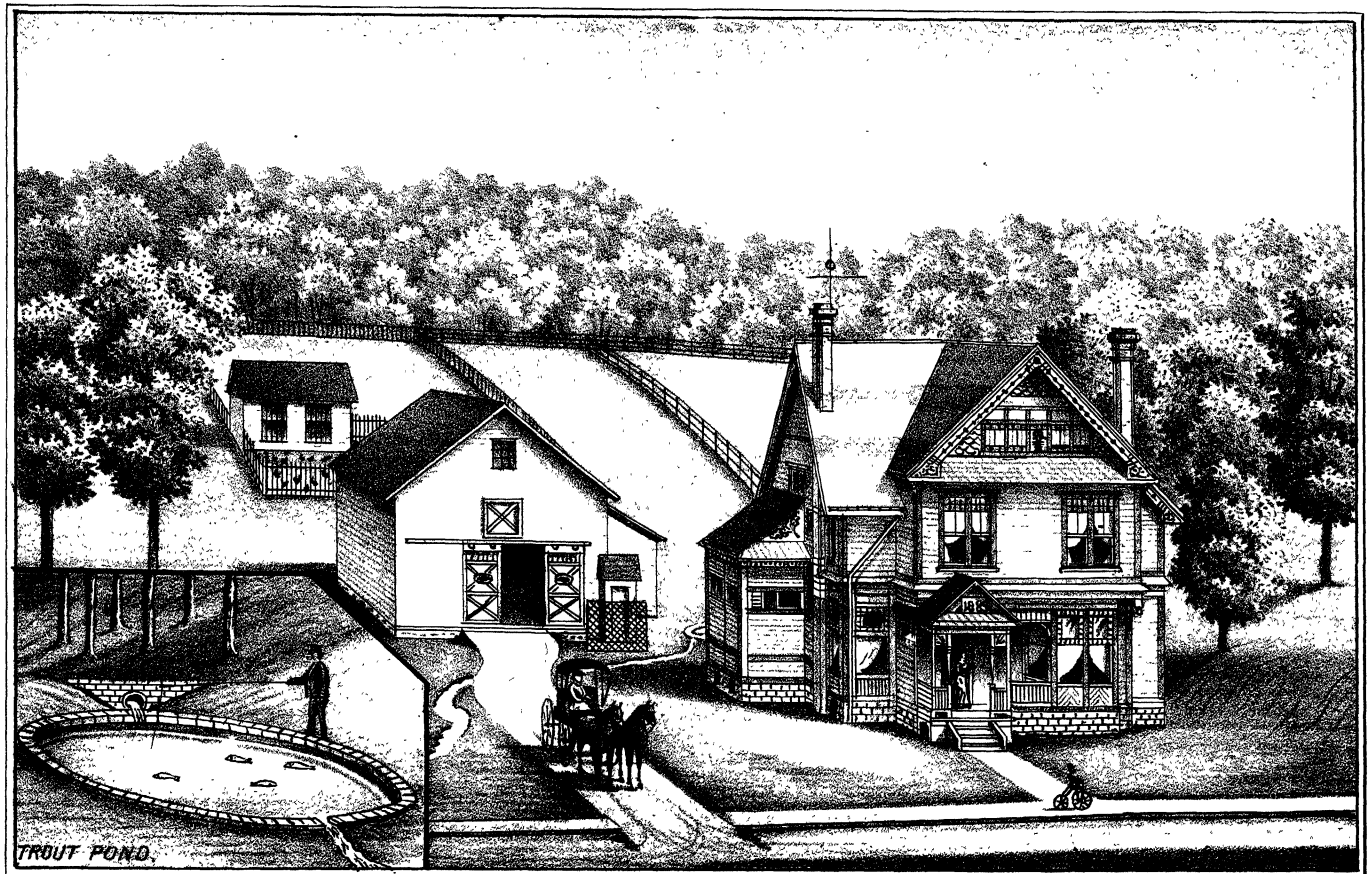
Mr. Gardner is a staunch Republican in politics, and is in all ways a public-spirited citizen, willing ever to promote the best interests of the county and the neighborhood. He and his good wife are now enjoying the fruits of a life well-spent and are prepared to spend the winter of their days in comfort surrounded by children and friends. Our subject possesses prominently many of the characteristic virtues transmitted to him by his Anglo-Saxon ancestors, characteristics which have made the sturdy and unyielding Britain the world's great colonizer. He is loyal in heart to his adopted country, and rejoices that he has been able to establish so fair a home in Uncle Sam's domains under the fair banner of the stars and stripes. He is well-known for his sterling integrity and his fine farm attests to his success in life. A lithographic view of Mr. Gardner's beautiful residence is shown on another page of this ALBUM.



ORRY WATERBURY. This name is not only familiar to the residents of Ionia, in which city he who bears it resides, but is equally familiar in several other places where prominent buildings have been put up under the supervision of its wearer. Mr. Waterbury is a practical mechanic, good architect, and as contractor and builder has not only done well for himself financially, but has been instrumental in adorning the streets of this and other cities with attractive and substantial buildings. His own elegant home, a view of which is shown on



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH GARDNER SEC. 5. KEENE TP., IONIA CO., MICH.



RESIDENCE OF ORRY WATERBURY. 416. LAFAYETTE ST., IONIA, MICH.

another page, is on East LaFayette Street and is one whose design and surroundings at once draw the attention of a passer-by.

The birthplace of Mr. Waterbury was Rensselaer County, N. Y., and his natal day November 25, 1838. His parents are Barton and Mary J. (Peasley) Waterbury, who were born in the Empire State, in which their respective ancestors for several generations had resided. The Waterburys were of English origin and the Peasleys German. The work to which Barton Waterbury has given his attention during a long and useful life is farming, a work which he still continues at the age of seventy-nine years. His family includes three children besides our subject, viz: Stephen, a farmer in Western New York; Angeline, who lives with her parents in Orleans County, that State; and Daniel, a painter whose home is in Ionia, Mich.

When our subject was but a lad his father removed to Orleans County, N. Y., where he attended the common school and acquired the greater part of his education. He spent one winter in attendance at an institute of learning in the eastern part of the State. He was reared to farming until nineteen years old, and then began to study the carpenter's trade, with which he in due time became thoroughly acquainted. He came to Ionia in 1864, and has followed contracting here until a few years past, when he devoted himself to architectural work exclusively. For several years he carried on a sash and blind factory, but it was destroyed by fire in 1878 and he did not resume the business. Many of the best residences here and in Belding have been designed by him, and several fine properties in Lansing, St. Louis and elsewhere were built by him. The asylum, poorhouse and other public buildings are monuments of his skill, and he has recently completed two life-saving stations at Marquette for the Government.

At the head of the household affairs at Mr. Waterbury's home is a lady who was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary Lucina Hart, which name she exchanged for the one she now bears, November 26, 1862. Mrs. Waterbury is the daughter of Rescom Hart, a carpenter and millwright, who in addition to working at his trade carries on a farm. She is an intelligent, capable woman, who under-

stands how to make her home attractive to the members of the family and their numerous friends. She is the mother of four children, named respectively; Della June, Alice May, Raymond B. and Orry, Jr. The elder daughter is now in New York and the younger is happily married to Herbert T. Powell.

Mr. Waterbury is a well-read man and one who is numbered among the reliable members of society, interested in the progress of the community and kindly in his associations with those about him. He is Trustee and Deacon in the Baptist Church and wears his religion as an every-day garment.



EBENEZER P. KELSEY is the son of Levi Woodbury Kelsey, born in 1805, in Chenango County, N. Y. He was a farmer and very prominent in the politics of the Western part of the State, being a member of the State Legislature. He was the son of Dr. Alexander Kelsey, a native of New York, but of the best Scotch descent. The town of Kelso, in Scotland, was the ancient home of the family and received its name from them. The ruins of Kelso Abbey are the most interesting sight to tourists who visit the ancient home of the Kelsey family. The Abbey was demolished September 5, 1545, by order of King Henry VIII. of England. At that time a part of the family were executed by the royal order and others made their escape to Ireland. Their grandfather Alexander was killed by the falling of a tree in 1824. The ancestors of our subject were very early emigrants to America, settling in New Hampshire in the first part of the seventeenth century. There was a long line of physicians in the family. The mother of Ebenezer was Asenath Laura (Hoyt) Kelsey, born in 1806, in Montgomery County, N. Y., and still surviving, a resident of Orange Township. She was a daughter of Ebenezer and Rebecca (Pinckney) Hoyt, a descendant of the Pinckney family of Revolutionary fame. Grandfather Hoyt died during the War of 1812. The Hoyt side of the family is of mixed blood, Scotch

and Dutch. Ebenezer Hoyt was a son of John and Eunice (Preston) Hoyt. Rebecca Pinckney was a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Latimer) Pinckney.

The parents of our subject were married in Rush, Monroe County, N. Y., in July, 1824. There they resided until 1857 when they came to Michigan and settled upon this farm on section 29, Ionia Township. They took this farm when it was already partially improved, a small log house being their home in which they remained, continuing improvements until 1863, when they removed to Berlin Township and made their home there until the death of Levi Kelsey in 1867. He was always active in politics, like many other old time Whigs becoming a Republican on the formation of that party, and being afterwards elected to the office of Supervisor. During his residence in New York he was for twenty years Justice of the Peace and in 1848 served in the State Legislature. His wife was a useful and conscientious member for more than sixty years of the Methodist Church. They were the parents of seven children: Mary Jane, Mrs. Grove P. Barber, deceased, February 7, 1891; Alexander Frink; Ebenezer P., our subject; Robert Treat, deceased; Helen Lovisa, Mrs. William B. Taylor, deceased November, 1873; Levi Martin, deceased October 23, 1886; and Hannah Gertrude, Mrs. William B. Taylor.

E. P. Kelsey was the third child of his parents and was born February 5, 1830, at Rush, Monroe County, N. Y. After completing his studies in the common schools he entered Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and was also for a season at Genesee College at Lima, N. Y. His intention was to study for a physician, which seemed to be his hereditary profession but he did not begin the study of medicine proper, for at twenty-one years of age he felt it his duty to begin work for himself, that he might be able to pay back to his father the expenses of his education. He worked at \$14 per month for two seasons and during the winters taught school and thus settled his obligation. He continued teaching, completing eighteen terms in district and union schools, being one year at Fowlerville, and two years at Caledonia. He then engaged as a bookkeeper in the railroad office of the Elmira,

Canandaigua and Niagara Falls Railway and bought grain on commission for J. F. Brown & Co. His next move was to keep books and travel for a mercantile house in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1857. He then removed to his present farm on section 29, and spent the year 1858 here, when he next returned to New York, to marry and bring home "the girl he left behind him."

The subject of this sketch married March 30, 1859, Miss Theresa Ermina Loomis, a daughter of John and Anna (Winship) Loomis. Her father was a native of Ancram, Columbia County, N. Y., born there March 5, 1781. He was a son of Timothy and Lucretia (VonFreidenburgh) Loomis, and grandson of Thomas Loomis, also of Ancram, N. Y. He in turn was a son of Josiah, who married Elizabeth Kelsey and lived in Windsor, Conn., and grandson of Daniel and Mary (Elsworth) Loomis of the same town. Daniel was the son of Deacon John Loomis, of the same place, who married Elizabeth Scott, of Hartford, in 1648. The father of Deacon John Loomis was Joseph Loomis born in Braintree, Essex County, England. He came to America in the ship "Susan and Ellen," arriving at Boston July 17, 1638, and settling in 1640 in Windsor, Conn., where he had large landed possessions. The estate is in possession of descendants of the family and always has been. He died there November 25, 1658. The ancient ancestors of Mrs. Kelsey on the Loomis side are largely college professors. The late Prof. Elias Loomis, of Yale College, was a member of the same family. He left the second largest endowment to Yale College, the amount being \$300,000. Her immediate ancestors were all scholarly men. The coat of arms of the Loomis family is as follows: Greyhound Courant; Greyhound Rampant; three Escalops, Ermine. Motto, "Mors Christi Vita Mihi."

Mrs. Kelsey's mother was a daughter of Nehemiah and Catherine (Westfall) Winship, who settled in Dutchess County, N. Y. He was a blacksmith by trade. The family is an old New England one. Her parents married in Clinton Township, Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1807, and settled in that township, making their home there for many years. Here twelve of their children were born. Later

they moved to Livingston County, N. Y., where he died May 21, 1841, she surviving him until August 15, 1871. They were the parents of thirteen children, five of whom are now living: Chauncey lives in Ionia; Catherine, Mrs. E. H. Davis, lives in Avon, N. Y.; Jane, Mrs. Samuel A. Sibley, in Grand Blanc, Mich.; James W., lives in Berlin Township, and Mrs. Kelsey is the youngest of the surviving children.

Mrs. Kelsey was born December 19, 1833, in Livingston County, N. Y. After attending the district school she went to the academy at Avon; afterward to Le Roy Female Seminary and completed her course at the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary.

After they left New York in 1856 the family came to Michigan, where the father and his son Ebenezer purchased one hundred and twenty acres, which comprises a part of the present homestead. It was on that farm that the father continued to reside until his removal to Berlin Township. After the father went to Berlin Township, our subject rented his father's part of this farm. He has since carried it on adding to it, so that he now owns five hundred and twenty-five acres of land, all but thirty of which are well improved. He has never received assistance from anyone, being a thorough business man as well as a first-class farmer and all that he has, his splendid farm and beautiful residence, has been gained by his own efforts supplemented by those of his faithful wife. His fine house built in 1876 cost \$7,000. The main barn is 40x110 feet, on a basement wall nine feet high, with a straw barn attached 40x70 feet in dimensions. Three more barns measure one 60x90 feet, another 20x70, and the third 40x50 feet, having a basement. These barns were erected at a cost of over \$5,000. Corn houses, tool houses, etc., milk houses and shops, help to complete the fine appointments of this fine farm. A well two hundred feet deep has pipes connecting it with every part of the farm.

Mr. Kelsey carries on mixed farming and pays considerable attention to fattening stock, feeding large quantities at all times. This spring he sold seventy-five thousand pounds of meat. He has one hundred acres in wheat and seventy in corn,

and cut last year one hundred tons of hay. He has made a specialty of blooded stock. In 1857 he brought with him some full-blooded Short-horn stock, which he had bought from Gen. Wadsworth, of Western New York. He keeps Shropshire sheep, also Percheron horses of which he is a great admirer. Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey are the parents of three children: Lillian, born September 6, 1860, is the wife of Edwin Pennell, now Sheriff of Clinton County, Mich., and residing at St. Johns; they have no children. Ada Loomis, born June 21, 1868; Levi William, born January 28, 1876, died February 3, 1876. The best education has been given to these children. Miss Ada's schooling has been at home conducted entirely by her mother. She is proficient in literature, music, painting and embroidery, having had special teachers in the last three. The whole family are members of the Presbyterian Church of Ionia, of which they are liberal supporters, except the youngest daughter who belongs to the Episcopal Church.

Ebenezer Kelsey is a member of the Masonic order, Blue Lodge. He has taken great interest in local school matters for a time as a member of the School Board. He has also been active in politics, is a staunch Republican and has frequently been a delegate to district and State political conventions. He has been School Commissioner, Supervisor of Ionia Township, and also County Drainage Commissioner. He is a man of power in his party and was at one time nominated for Representative but declined. During the first six winters of his residence in the State he was in the schoolroom as a teacher. He was among the early founders of the County Agricultural Society, serving successively as Secretary, Director and twice as President, holding continuous office for eighteen years. He was also for eight years one of the Directors of the Central Michigan Agricultural Society. All public improvements, as railroads, wagon works, and whatever pertained to the welfare of the city of Ionia has found an earnest and practical promoter in him.

Levi Martin Kelsey, one of the brothers of our subject, was born February 18, 1841, at Rush, Monroe County, N. Y. He received a common-school education and when he came to Michigan

with his parents, identified himself with the others in efforts for the family welfare. At his death October 23, 1886, he had one hundred and sixty-five acres of improved land, a good residence with all first-class appointments. He was married December 15, 1864, to Alice Adella Murdock, who was born in November 1842, in Medina, Orleans County, N. Y. She was the daughter of Zimri Murdock, who married Nancy Pennell. She was the daughter of Dr. John Pennell and Sarah J. Winslow. Dr. John Pennell was the son of Captain Ebenezer Pennell and Nancy Smith. He was of Scotch descent and an officer in the Colonial army in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Kelsey taught school previous to her marriage, and preceded her husband to the other world June 9, 1879. They were the parents of one child—Agnes Estella—born December 29, 1865; she is the wife of John Thwing Loomis, a nephew of Mrs. E. P. Kelsey; they live in Ionia. Levi Kelsey was beloved by all who knew him as an honest, noble, generous and manly man. He and his daughter were members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was a Republican. The Agricultural Society engaged much of his attention, as he was an active worker therein and at the time of his death was a member of the County Board. He was also Vice-President of the Ionia County Wool Growers Association, the last years of his life. This generous, kind hearted man had a remarkably strong hold upon the affections of the community in which he lived.



JOHAN J. EITELBUSS. The accounts of the freedom to be found in America and the wonderful resources of this country have drawn hither many a native of foreign lands, and throughout our broad land they are to be found working their way from poverty to competence and proving their attachment to the land of their adoption by their interest in her progress and various institutions. This class is represented in Montcalm County as elsewhere throughout the State, and it is our purpose to give a brief outline of the life of one who has been a resident of Home

Township for several years past. Mr. Eitelbuss has four hundred and seven acres of land on sections 30 and 31, two hundred and twenty of which are under the plow.

The ancestors of our subject lived in Wurtemberg, Germany, and his grandfather, Johannes Eitelbuss, owned a farm near Herrenberg. He was a farmer and teamster and followed the latter calling during the War of 1815. His son J. George was reared on the farm and was eighteen years old when he was drafted into the army for the war before mentioned. He received a sabre cut across the face. He died in his native land in 1839 cheered by the consolation of the Lutheran faith. His wife was Anna Marie Remp, daughter of a Wurtemberg farmer—Stephen Remp. She was the mother of thirteen children, seven of whom were reared to maturity. After the death of her husband she carried on the farm and reared the family, doing much manual labor in the fields. She came to this country in 1854 and died at Palo, this State, in 1876, at the ripe age of seventy-six years.

The subject of this biographical sketch was born in Herrenberg, Wurtemberg, Germany, January 5, 1833. In accordance with the custom of his native land he attended school until he was fourteen years old and during the last two years ranked as first scholar. He was then confirmed, and laying aside his books entered upon his work as a farmer, laboring on the homestead until he was seventeen years old. He then hired out for two years as a farm hand, after which he did teaming from Tuebingen to Stuttgart, hauling merchandise with three spans of horses. He was an expert driver and earned a reputation that extended far and wide. Being liable to military service and wishing to escape the obligation he determined to come to America, where being a soldier was not compulsory.

Mr. Eitelbuss left Havre, France, May 10, 1853, on the sailer "William Tell," and thirty-four days later landed in New York City. He made his way to Ann Arbor, Mich., and on his arrival had three shillings left to keep him over night. He sought employment and hired out for \$10 per month in haying. Three months later he entered the em-

ploy of the Michigan Central Railroad at seven shillings a day. He soon resumed farm work and when his mother crossed the ocean he rented two hundred acres in Washtenaw County, making a home in which she was his housekeeper. He operated the place three years, then in April, 1858, moved to Ann Arbor and engaged in teaming and soon added contracting to his job work. He furnished material for the stone foundation of churches, did grading on the University grounds, built the tunnel and underground engine house, the gas tank, and furnished scaffold poles for various buildings.

Mr. Eitelbuss also built seven miles of the Toledo & Ann Arbor Railroad, and when the contract was finished established himself at Six Lakes, where he used eight teams in lumbering until the spring of 1881. Going to Detroit he helped build and grade eleven side tracks, then those between the depots. There he used seven teams, as he had done in other places, and when he came to Montcalm County to make a permanent location he brought them here and used them in lumbering. He did a big business in lumbering near Wyman, and after buying his present estate cleared quite a large acreage. He first bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, then one hundred and sixty-seven on section 31, and still later eighty on section 30. He has made the improvements which include a substantial barn and windmill. His dwelling is a log house but large and comfortable. He has one hundred and forty acres of hay land and puts up one hundred and seventy-five tons per year, besides what he uses for his own well-graded stock. He harvests good crops of grain and raises and feeds more cattle than any other man in the vicinity. He keeps graded Short-horns and horses of well-known breeds.

In February, 1858, Mr. Eitelbuss was married to Miss Louisa Bauer, who came to America in 1857 and made her home in Ann Arbor. She was born in the same province as her husband February 25, 1838, and was reared by an uncle, her parents, Conrad and Barbara (Walz) Bauer, having died when she was quite small. They were farmers near Reudlingen. Mr. and Mrs. Eitelbuss have seven children, those who are still at home

being William F., Lizzie, Annie L. and Carrie. John J., Jr., the eldest, is a blacksmith in Edmore; Frank, the second child, is teaming in the north woods; Mary is the wife of William Simpson and lives in Day Township.

Mr. Eitelbuss has served as Commissioner of Highways three years and has shown excellent judgment regarding public improvements. He belongs to the Royal Templars of Temperance at Ann Arbor and is connected with the Patrons of Industry, in which organization he has been Vice-President. He is a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party and never fails to deposit his vote in behalf of that in which he has faith.



E. CURTIS, of the firm of Curtis & Sawdy, is one of the most enterprising business men in Edmore, Montcalm County.

He may well be said to have an old head on young shoulders, as he is doing a better business and showing more tact in pushing his enterprise than is the case with many older men. He carries a fine stock of groceries and the firm also deals largely in provisions, being, in fact, the heaviest dealers in the place. Mr. Curtis is associated in business with his brother-in-law, Calvin Sawdy, who is also a man of abundant energy, and the reputation of the two for honesty and integrity is unexcelled.

The grandfather of Mr. Curtis was Dr. John M. Curtis, who was born in England and was graduated from a medical college there. He came to America and located near Boston, Mass., but later removed to Chatham, Canada. In 1844 he came to this State and established himself at Woodland, Barry County, where he became very prominent both as a citizen and a pioneer physician. His last years were spent there, and he is well remembered by the old settlers of that section. The direct progenitor of our subject was John N. Curtis, who was born in Pennsylvania and was engaged in farming in Canada several years. He came to Barry County, this State, the same year as his father, and buying Government

land in Woodland Township, reclaimed a farm and finally had one hundred and twenty acres under good improvement. During the last twenty-five years of his life he was in poor health, but he lived to the age of sixty-seven years. He was a member of the Church of God. His wife was Mary Cunningham, a native of Ireland, whose parents emigrated to Canada during her childhood. Her father, Patrick Cunningham, carried on a farm and died in the Dominion. The family of John N. Curtis and his wife consisted of nine children, and he of whom we write is third on the family roll.

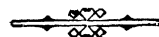
M. E. Curtis was born in Barry County, this State, May 29, 1875, and reared on a farm, enjoying good advantages in the common schools. His labors were given to his own improvement and the general welfare of the family until he was of age, when he took up farm life for himself, buying forty acres in his native township and building upon and otherwise improving it. He carried on general farming and stock-raising until the fall of 1884, when he came to Edmore and opened a meat-market. For two years he was engaged in that business and stock-dealing, and he then entered upon the sale of groceries. This he has successfully continued, taking in his brother-in-law as a partner in the spring of 1889.

The lady who presides over the household affairs at the home of Mr. Curtis became his wife December 24, 1876. Prior to that time she was as Miss Ardella Sawdy. She was born in Woodland Township, Barry County, was carefully reared and well fitted to enter upon the duties that lay before her when she became a wife. She is the mother of five children, named respectively: M. Ruth, Omar C., Estella, Ertie and Marilla J.

The father of Mrs. Curtis was Ebenezer Sawdy, who was born in Scipio, Cayuga County, N. Y., March 2, 1812, and was reared in Orleans County, to which his parents went when he was four years old. He was married there at the age of twenty-four to Ruth Rose, who was born in that county in 1820, and whose father, Benjamin Rose, was a farmer. The latter spent his last years in this State with his daughter and family, having retired from active life. In the spring of 1842 Mr.

Sawdy came to Barry County, this State, traveling from the lakes on foot. He bought forty acres of wild land, then returned East and in the fall brought his family to their new home. He built a rude log house and literally hewed out a farm from the timber. He eventually became the owner of considerable landed property and was numbered among the successful members of the community. He was the first mail carrier between Woodland and South Cass, and carried the mail tied up in a handkerchief. He was Justice of the Peace for years and in politics was a Republican. His death took place February 27, 1890. The Sawdys are of English ancestry.

Mr. Curtis has been Village Trustee two years and in his official life displays the same zeal that has characterized him as a business man. He is interested in social orders and is connected with the Odd Fellows, Good Templars and Knights of the Maccabees, in each of which he has held office. He is particularly active in the Good Templars' work and is now Chief Templar of the Thirteenth District. He exercises the right of suffrage with the Prohibitionists, being one of those who believe the liquor question the all-important one at this time. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, is a Trustee and has been Class-Leader, and takes an active part in the religious and benevolent work that is carried on by the congregation.



BENJAMIN HALL. The name of Benjamin Hall is one that is well known in Ionia County and in other parts of central Michigan. He has been connected with various interests in this section, owns considerable real estate, and is the manager of the well-known summer resort at Long Lake. His home is on section 3, Orleans Township, where he is engaged in farming and looking after his other interests. He was born in Washtenaw County, January 12, 1843, but was only a child when his parents removed to Ionia County. Here he has spent most of his time and here his chief interests center.

Mr. Hall is descended from an old Vermont fam-

ily and grandfather Willard Hall, is numbered among the pioneers of Washtenaw County, this State. He came hither from the Green Mountain home, believing that a farmer could do better in this country than among the hills of New England. Grandfather Hall built forty-seven log houses for himself and lived in many different localities. He finally came to Ionia County to make his home with his son Hiram, and here he breathed his last.

Hiram Hall, father of our subject was born amid the hills of Vermont and came to this State when a small boy. He lived in Washtenaw County until after his marriage, and from his early life was engaged in farming and lumbering. In 1846 he took up eighty acres of Government land in Orleans Township, Ionia County, and lived upon it until his death, which occurred February 3, 1883. He was an extensive dealer in lumber and with Elder R. D. Howe, built the first sawmill in the township, which was run by water power. He also built a steam sawmill at Long Lake, which he ran twenty years. He was married in Washtenaw County in 1830 to Julia A. Olmsted, who is still living on the farm and is now seventy-six years old. She is the mother of six children, viz: Elizabeth, Franklin, Eliza, Benjamin, Irvin and Hiram. Her father, Benjamin J. Olmsted, was born in Vermont and was an early settler in Washtenaw County. Thence he came to Ionia County and in Orleans Township he died about 1870.

Benjamin Hall spent his early years under the shelter of the parental roof, acquiring a practical education and a knowledge of pursuits in which his father was engaged. In 1867 he bought an eighty-acre farm in the township that is now his home, but he subsequently sold it and went to Kalamazoo County and kept a lumber yard at Vicksburg a year and a half. He then sold out the yard and returning to Ionia County bought a half interest in the mill then owned by his father and in three hundred acres of pine land he possessed. He was in the mill about six years and he now owns the land that belonged with it. He also owns one hundred and twenty acres in Montcalm County. In 1889 he and his brother Hiram visited Washington and Oregon to look for timber land. Hiram Hall

took two claims of three hundred and twenty acres in the latter State and in 1890 sold to our subject a half interest in the property. At the Long Lake Summer Resort people gather for recreation and recuperation during the summer and the fame of the place is quite extended. Mr. Hall now has twenty-six row boats on the lake.

The marriage of Mr. Hall was solemnized in Orleans Township August 9, 1868. The bride, Miss Mary Morton, is the youngest child of Alexander and Mary (Grier) Morton, and has three brothers, Alexander, James A. and John W. Mr. Morton was born in Scotland and his wife in Ireland. After their emigration from their native lands they lived in Canada and thence came to Ionia County in 1854. Mr. Morton bought eighty acres of land in Orleans Township, lived upon it a number of years, then sold it and with his wife made his home with their daughter. Mr. Morton died February 15, 1885, and Mrs. Morton November 16, 1886. The father was eighty-two years old and the mother seventy-four years old. They were members of the Congregational Church and in Canada Mr. Morton had been a teacher.

Our subject and his wife are the happy parents of four children who bear the names of Frank J., Lizzie, Morton B. and Raymond. It has been the aim of the parents to fit them for useful and honorable positions in the world by giving them the best educations possible and training them in the principles of right living. Mr. Hall is a Republican in politics.



GEORGE A. PHILLIPS is one of the old settlers of Otisco Township, and has an extended acquaintance throughout Ionia County. His labors in life have proved so successful that he is enabled to spend his declining years without feeling the necessity of toil, but with a sufficient amount of wealth to furnish him with every comfort and enable him to enjoy the delights of generous giving as well. His home is at Cook's

Corners, near which village his agricultural work has been done.

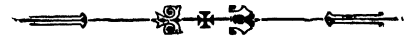
Among the early settlers of New York was one George Phillips, son of Thomas Phillips, of Rhode Island, and of the old Quaker stock. That gentleman was married in the Empire State to Dolly, daughter of Elkanah and Hepsibah (Phillips) Smith. To them were born the following children besides our subject: Thomas H., now living in Australia; Hiram, Stephen and Hosea, deceased; Charity, who died in Chicago a few years since; Susan deceased; Fanny, a resident of New York; and Freelove and Salma deceased. The father had never abandoned the Quaker belief in which he had been reared, and the mother was a member of the Christian Church.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs was born January 12, 1818, in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and as his father was a farmer his boyhood was spent amid rural scenes. At the age of sixteen years he went to work on the neighboring farm and held his position there eight years. His mother having died, leaving two small children, he took charge of the home farm and filled, as best he could, the parents' place to the little ones for two years. A brother then took his place and in 1845 he turned his footsteps toward Michigan, driving from Pittstown to Troy, thence coming by the Erie Canal and lake to Detroit, whence an ox-team brought him to the neighborhood of his present home. He was accompanied in his journey by a wife to whom he had been married but a few years, their wedding day having been January 22, 1842.

Mrs. Phillips bore the maiden name of Abigail Wright, and is one of the eleven children comprising the family of Hezekiah and Elizabeth (Clark) Wright. Her parents were born in Massachusetts but at the time of her marriage their home was in Pittstown, N. Y. Those of her brothers and sisters who are now living are Elihu, a resident of Coral, this State; Cynthia, whose home is in Otisco; Abner in Orleans Township; James, in Montcalm County; and Charles in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have two sons, Wilson M. and Edmond W., both of whom are engaged in farming, the elder in Saginaw County and the younger in Otisco Town-

ship. The elder son served in the Tenth Michigan Cavalry from February until in November, 1865.

The first Presidential ballot cast by Mr. Phillips was for William Henry Harrison and he has lived to vote for a grandson of that General. Although never an aspirant for public office our subject has been an active worker in political circles and during a residence in Otisco Township of forty-six years, he has missed but one election and one town meeting. As will be understood, he is a member of the Republican party. He is a member of Ionia Lodge, No. 16, County Grange and Banner Grange of Orleans Township. He and his wife belong to the Christian Church that was organized in 1846 and they, together with Mrs. Clark Demorest and Erastus S. Jinks, are the only surviving charter members.



OSMOND S. TOWER. The business interests of this gentleman are varied and extensive. His residence is in Ionia, Ionia County, and he is Vice President of the Michigan Overall Factory in that city, a stockholder in the First National Bank and the owner of much rented property; he is also a farmer with the oversight of considerable outlying land. He was born May 27, 1840, to Osmond and Martha (Gallagher) Tower, and grew to manhood in Ionia. His father passed away August 4, 1886, but his mother is still living. The chief incidents in their lives are given elsewhere in this volume.

Our subject attended the State Normal School and Seminary at Ypsilanti five years, and then studied in the law department of the State University at Ann Arbor. After completing his schooling he engaged in the hardware business in Ionia, under the firm name of Tower & Todd. After a time he disposed of his interest in this business, and going to Edmore embarked in a similar enterprise there, continuing it until the death of his father, when he was called upon to take part in the joint management of a large estate. In looking after his varied interests he displays an unusual amount of



George H Minard

tact, so that the affairs he has in charge are moving on satisfactorily. In August, 1864, Mr. Tower enlisted in the Sixth Michigan Cavalry, which became a part of Sheridan's army, going the front as Captain of Company E. He took part in the campaigns in the Shenandoah Valley and participated in the capture of Lee and Johnson, and afterward took part in the Grand Review at Washington.

Mr. Tower was married in September, 1862, to Miss Sarah, daughter of A. M. Bartholomew, of Detroit, and the union has resulted in the birth of three children: Elsie, Fred and Marion. The latter is now the wife of W. B. Carpenter, of Chicago. Mr. Tower is a Republican, and an active, staunch and influential member of his party. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, in which his social qualities and kindly spirit are duly recognized. He is an active and useful member of society, and a potent factor in extending the business interests of Ionia.



GEORGE H. MINARD. A book filled with the records of the lives of good men is suggestive of the most precious and important truths. As was said by one famed in English literature, such a book is the "precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." They serve as potent examples to each succeeding generation, and teach them how to make life a success. As a prominent farmer of Montcalm County, Mr. Minard deserves representation in a volume designed to perpetuate the names of her leading citizens. We are pleased to invite the attention of our readers to his portrait on the opposite page, and to the following brief account of the main events in his life.

Mr. Minard was born in Allegheny County, Pa., October 2, 1841, and is the son of John and Rebecca (Hilyard) Minard, both natives of Pennsylvania. His mother is a resident of Sidney Township, and his father was killed soon after the removal of the family to Ohio, which occurred when George was about six years old. When he was twelve years old he removed from Ohio to Noble

County, Ind., in which State he resided until at the age of twenty years he entered the Union army. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry. He was ordered to Henderson, Ky., and thence to Bowling Green, and Ft. Henry, where he fought in the battles of Ft. Henry and Ft. Donelson. From there he went to Shiloh and was in that battle April 6 and 7, 1862. He removed after this to Corinth, Miss., and was present at the evacuation, which occurred June 3. He was then sent to Sherman's field hospital in the State of Tennessee, on the ground gone over in the march and then to the marine hospital at Evansville. October 8, 1862, he received his honorable discharge at Indianapolis, Ind.

After remaining at home until February, 1863, this young man who was deeply interested in the war, went again into the employ of the Government at Covington, Ky., then at Nicholasville, Ky., and on to Camp Nelson. He carried provisions between Camp Nelson and Cumberland Gap, to and from different divisions of the army until about June 15, when he went home again to Indiana. In February, 1865, he re-enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Infantry, and was Orderly Sergeant of the company which was organized at Indianapolis. He was sent to Harper's Ferry, from there to Charlestown, and was at Winchester when Lee surrendered. He enjoyed greatly helping to tear down the old prison and court house where John Brown was tried and imprisoned. He returned to Grafton and from there to Parkersburg, on the Ohio river after the surrender of Gen. Lee. He received his honorable discharge at Charlestown, W. Va., and returned to Indiana August 30, 1865.

This war veteran now decided to seek the ways of peace in domestic life and was married March 26, 1866, to Mary T. Barns, of Noble County, Ind. They found their first home in Edgar County, Ill., but remained there only a year, coming to Michigan and settling in Allegan County in the fall of 1867, and making a removal to Montcalm County in the fall of 1871. The first seven years of his residence in this State he devoted himself to engineering, and since that time has followed the voca-

tion of a farmer on the place where he now resides, which has seen great improvement since he took it in hand. The four children of his first wife have all passed away from earth. His second marriage was with Pheba Lenard. This event took place May 2, 1880, and the union was of short duration as the wife lived only four months. The present Mrs. Minard, to whom he was married February 7, 1881, bore the maiden name of Arena McCLOW. Three children have been born of this union: Mauda B., born May 17, 1883; Arthur Blaine, January 5, 1885; and Kitty May, December 7, 1889. These little ones are all living to rejoice the hearts of their parents.

Mr. Minard has held the office of Constable for some time; has been School Director for eight years and is now School Inspector and a probable candidate for Treasurer. He takes an active interest in the educational matters at his home. He is a Republican in politics and in his religious convictions is connected with the Congregational Church.



CHARLES G. SANDERS. The annals of the biographer are the mystic links that bind the shadowy past to the living, pulsing present, and a truthful record of the lives that are measured by deeds and not by the cycling years, is a theme of surpassing grandeur. Thirty years, how brief the span! and yet, in the simple record of those years is a fruitful source of the proof of the possibilities of young American manhood. The subject of our sketch owed his origin to G. T. and Mary (Fairchilds) Sanders, natives of New York, which State was also the native place of Charlie. The family name indicates their descent from the English of Cromwell's time, and they were probably among the early settlers of that name to colonize New York during the Revolutionary period.

In his early youth Charles was brought by his parents to Corunna, Shiawassee County, Mich., where he gained a good education, the character of which we can conjecture by the effect of his training on his mature mental faculties. Already strong

in the equipoise of a well-developed mind, at the age of twenty-two he located at Stanton, Montcalm County, Mich., and began the study of dentistry. In his pupilage were developed that ambition to excel and unconquerable desire to succeed that can only reach its fruition through patient study and ceaseless application. It was here that the testimony as to his sterling traits first attracted the attention of those who so gladly give credence to the data of his life.

On completing the preliminary study of his profession our subject began business for himself in Stanton, Montcalm County. "Honesty is the best policy" was the unwritten law of his business career and the talisman of his success. Uncorruptable in honor, he carried the law of his life into business transactions and whatever of reward he gained in worldly store came as the golden guerdon and legitimate result of industry and ripe judgment; and wealth gained in such manner brings peace, only, in its train.

A nature of such nobility as that of Dr. Sanders turns to the prototype of heaven, a home, for its full enjoyment and the woman of his choice to whom he was married April 13, 1879, and whose devotion to him was as beautiful as sincere, was Miss Jennie Philo, a native of Michigan. The bond of union was forever sealed in the parentage of two children—Gladys Lillian, born February 4, 1884, and Charles Garfield, May 5, 1887. In the enjoyment of the presence of those loved ones seemed his perpetual delight, and around the fireside was spent every hour not filled with business cares. Scarcely can we fathom the infinity of bereavement caused by the relentless hand of death to her who bore the holy name of wife and to the little children so early deprived of a father's care. But to his descendants he has left the priceless boon of his example and they can walk in the path trod by "father" with unflinching trust that leads to safety, honor and success.

In the traits of character shown in the two relations, in business and in the home, are to be found the secrets of his strong friendships, and rare indeed must be the nature that could meet so nearly with universal favor. Such a character needs no praise to adorn it, and these annals are only a fair

expression of those whose relations to him caused them to know not only the outer but the inner man. Such a life is too precious and rare to be lost. The standard of manhood of this brief life is the only true one for American youth; what he did, by the force of will, you can do, and it adds one more leaf to the garland that crowns the brow of him of whom it can be truly said "well done."



WILLIAM P. MITCHELL. The father of our subject, George Mitchell, was a New Jersey farmer and a soldier in the War of 1812. He married in New York Mary Dixon, a Connecticut woman. They made their home in Jefferson and Lewis Counties, N. Y., until 1829, when they came to Michigan and in October settled on section 13, in Berlin Township (then Cass Township.) He bought forty acres of wild land, and was to chop and clear five acres for Nathaniel Pierce in payment. He died, however, before the job was begun. He came by boat to Detroit, thence by ox-team to Ionia. With him were five of his children, whom his death in 1841 left homeless and penniless. His wife survived until 1864. They were the parents of eleven children. Nine grew to maturity and two of these are now living. His mother was a member of the Baptist Church. He was in politics a Jacksonian Democrat.

William P. Mitchell was born November 10, 1835, at Brownville, Jefferson County, N. Y. He was the youngest child of the family and was but four years old when the journey was made to Michigan. He attended the first organized school in this township, which was situated where the Coon schoolhouse now stands on the Bellevue road. This temple of learning was a log shanty, having a fireplace in a corner. The door had a wooden latch which was lifted by the traditional latch string. The first teacher was Eliza Kirkham. After the death of his father the family was cared for by an older brother, Curtis B., who was then about seventeen years old. He kept the family together, sent the younger ones to school, paid for the land and fed them on johnny cake. The grim disease

ague took hold of them and they learned early to shake with him. They had to drink maple and beech tree tea. William was put to work quite young, as soon as he could earn \$5 per month. He worked in the summer and attended school in the winter. The example of the brave older brother was not thrown away upon the younger children, but had its influence in the formation of their characters.

William has always been an industrious and hard-working farmer. He chopped and cleared about two hundred acres with his own hands. He began for himself when nineteen years of age, but worked very little by the month as he used to chop and log land by the job. He bargained for his first piece of land in the fall of 1854. It was eighty acres, on the spot where he now lives on section 4, of Berlin Township. He paid about one-third of the cost and went in debt for the balance. Clearing five acres of it he proceeded to build a log house which he completed in the fall of 1858.

William Mitchell married, March 6, 1859, Louisa S. Crane, a daughter of John W. and Sarah (Jones) Crane. Mrs. Mitchell's father, a stonemason, was born in New Jersey, and her mother was a native of New York. They came to Michigan in 1834 and settled in Novi Township, Oakland County, upon a raw farm which he proceeded to improve and lived there until his death in 1858. His wife survived him until 1877. Of their eleven children seven are now living. Mrs. Mitchell was the tenth in order of birth and was born November 2, 1834, in Oakland County. After marriage this young couple came to their homestead and settled March 21, 1859, in their log house. Mr. Mitchell has cleared off sixty-six acres of this farm and has it in a high state of cultivation, so that he able to carry on successfully his mixed farming operations. All improvements to be seen on this farm were placed there by his own hands and his present residence was built in 1878. He came onto this section entirely empty-handed.

Of their four children two are now living: Flora E., born January 25, 1860, died in infancy; Frank C., born August 23, 1862; John G., born July 31, 1864, died December 3, 1881; Thomas W., born July 31, 1866. Frank C. has been a student

at the Ionia High School and has since taught ten terms in Berlin Township, four of which in succession were taught in his home district. He was also School Inspector for two years. Mr. Mitchell still carries on the farm with the help of his two sons. He is interested in all matters of public import, is a member of the Patrons of Industry and of the Grange. In the latter organization he has held the office of Overseer one year, of Master two years and of Lecturer three years. He belongs to the Boston Lodge, No. 146, of the Masonic order at Saranac, in which he has been Junior Warden. For eleven years in succession he has held office on the School Board, and has been Supervisor of Berlin Township and also Treasurer for five years. From 1884 to 1886 he was Under Sheriff. For two years he has been Director in the Ionia County Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He has been Notary Public and for seven years past has acted as agent for the insurance company. He has taken a great interest in politics, voting the Democratic ticket, and has frequently been appointed delegate to both county and State conventions.

An essay read by Mr. Mitchell before Conviction Lodge, Patrons of Industry, at Eddy Schoolhouse, January 16, 1891, is given below:

MY FIRST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

"It has been said, and perhaps truthfully, that with all human beings there are in old age some bright and sunny spots upon which the retrospective eye can rest in looking over the dim and misty past. Something that is ever fresh and green in the mind, down to death's dark hour. Such is the case with myself in looking back along the paths over which I once traveled. My first Fourth of July celebration is one spot that is still fresh in my memory and will ever be. If I remember rightly it was forty-three years ago. I was at that time twelve years of age, living with my brother, C. B. Mitchell, and going to school at what is now known as the Coon district. In those days there were no millionaires in Ionia County and school children were not extravagantly dressed. My outfit for school, for church, for Fourth of July and for all occasions consisted of a straw hat, one pair of

pants (factory cloth), one pair of suspenders (factory cloth), one shirt (factory cloth). Coat and vest I had none. The pants and suspenders were colored with the dye made from soft maple bark; the shirt was white. My hat was homemade from rye straw braided and sewed by my mother's hand. My feet were clothed in Nature's garb.

"The settlers arranged to have a celebration upon the coming Fourth of July a mile and one-half south of Coon schoolhouse and eight miles south of Ionia City. As the time drew near my school did me but little good, and at least two weeks prior to the great event the good time coming was constantly in my mind. At last the 3d of July arrived and joy swelled my bosom. My mother had promised to let me go home from school with the boys who lived in the neighborhood where the celebration was to be held, and at an early hour I was making tracks along my two-mile winding path through the woods to the schoolhouse. The most interesting event of that day was that school was dismissed promptly at 4 o'clock P. M., as near as the teacher could guess. About half past three o'clock the next morning found us up and dressed and on the road to the Tamarack Swamp, wading through nettles up to our armpits a mile or more. When I went into that sea of nettles the tops of my feet looked somewhat like toad's backs, as they had not fully recovered from the 'chaps' that the cool spring weather had caused. But when I came out the "chaps" were all gone, and my feet were covered with blood and my legs seemed all on fire, but my pockets were full of tamarack gum, which seemed to have a soothing effect on the bodily anguish I then endured. The hours passed by and about 10 o'clock the delegations came pouring in from east, north and northwest until the crowd numbered probably forty or forty-five souls (allowing but one soul for each body). People came for nine miles with ox-teams, the men on foot swinging the whip in their right hand and a large bush in their left to avoid being devoured by mosquitoes.

"A short piece of a shot gun barrel was used as a cannon until it burst, wounding the old man Butler in the rear. The wound bled freely but proved to be nothing serious. All this time the

good old Irish mothers were arranging tables in the wilderness, preparing to feed the multitudes and fighting mosquitoes to the best of their ability. At last dinner was announced. The grown folks were to eat first, the table being too small to accommodate all. After dinner came the oration. Luke Harwood was called upon to 'orate' and responded with some very appropriate remarks. He was followed by Asa Houghton. During his preliminary remarks the announcement was made that there was room at the table for the children, and that is all I remember about his oration.

"I seated myself at the table and had a rich feast. For the first time in a long, long while I had all the wheat bread I could eat, well covered with leaky butter. After dinner the young people favored the audience with vocal music which in these days would be styled music by the Glee Club. The first song was 'The Bride's Farewell,' and now after the lapse of more than forty years that mournful wail sounds in my ears.

'Farewell mother! Tears are streaming,'

I will name a few of the songs sung: 'Cruel Barbara Allen,' 'Bonnie Light Horseman' and 'Dog and Gun.' Luke Harwood remarked that the singing was good, and the songs were good, but he thought them hardly appropriate. He volunteered two. The first was 'Bold Dighton,' and the second was an historical ballad, giving a description of the naval battle between the American 'Hornet' and the British 'Peacock.' The afternoon waned away and our shadows leaned to the eastward.

"The old people began to journey homeward, while the young and middle aged repaired to the house of Zophur Alderman to join in a jovial dance. Arriving at the house the men pulled off their stoga boots, and their socks serving as slippers they were ready with the girls for a dance. Remember it was pioneer days and no fiddler was to be had. The country was too new for that, but we had one mighty singer. They formed for an eight-hand reel, and the singer stood upon a log bench and sang all night long the same tune,

'Ri-doodle, doodle, do
Ri-doodle, dandy.'

When he danced he sang the same tune and same

words, except when he became a little out of breath, when he would sometimes change 'Ri-doodle' to 'Ri-duddle.' I would not think it possible to live through one night and go through what he did on that great and glorious Fourth of July. That was the first dance I ever attended. My eyes beheld great sights, my ears heard melodious sounds and my stomach had a great feast on that great day.

"I cannot call to mind any celebration that afforded me as much pleasure as this, and now after more than forty years my mind turns back to it with pleasure. Many of those friends have passed the Jordan of Death and are now numbered among the pale nations. Part of that host have crossed the flood and part are crossing now. The 'Ri-doodle' man still lingers on this side of Jordan's wave, unable to perform manual labor, his lungs nearly gone, a mere living skeleton. I have often thought that if the wise physician of to day were to examine his case and to learn his early habits he would look wise, shake his head and assign as the cause of his condition, too much 'doodle, do,' too much 'doodle, dandy.' "



BALLETT G. BENTLEY, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., was born July 10, 1829. His father, James Bentley, was a native of Beekman, Dutchess County, N. Y., and the mother, who bore the maiden name of Esther Marshall, was also born in Dutchess County. After their marriage there they removed to Steuben County, later to Darien, Genesee County. In 1842, when our subject was about thirteen years old, he accompanied his parents to this State, the trip being made across Lake Erie in the steamer "Robert Fulton," and they sojourned in Farmington, Oakland County, from May of 1842 until the following February. They then commenced the journey to Ionia County, where the father had two hundred acres of wild land, which none of the family had ever seen.

Before leaving Farmington, Mr. Bentley exchanged his horses for two yoke of oxen, and the

household goods being loaded in a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen, the leaders (his brother William driving the wheel oxen) were led by Hallett by means of ropes attached to rings through their noses. Numerous incidents, both amusing and annoying, marked the progress of such an expedition. When they had come as far as fifteen miles east of Lyons, and were going over a very rough primitive road, the covered wagon, in which the father, mother and sister were riding, slipped off the icy road over an embankment, but fortunately no one was hurt, a feather bed helping to break their fall. The wagon landed against a fence, thirty feet from the road; the father was thrown over the fence, but the mother and sister were under the load, and by hurriedly tearing off the covering of the wagon, they were pulled out none too soon to save them from suffocation.

After this accident the mother and sister walked the remaining distance, fifteen miles, to Lyons, as they feared they would not again escape unharmed if a similar accident occurred. When within a half mile of their destination, the father noticing the grubs and brush were very high and thick on the old Chauncy Goodwin farm, remarked that if his land looked like that he would never unload the goods. However, they were all much pleased with the appearance of the place, as the fires had kept the brush down. The work of improvement commenced at once, and our subject assisted in this pioneer labor until in February, 1849, when he went to Indiana with his eldest brother Hezekiah. By contrast to his emigrant team he found that a coach and four had a great attraction for him, and he engaged to drive a stage from Rochester to Logansport, Ind., for a time. This he did for the Western Stage Company.

The great lumbering Concord coach, the notes of the horn proclaiming its approach, the merry-making passengers that often fell to its lot, are all things of the past. The horses of steel have usurped the place of the horses of flesh, while the rumble of the cars has taken the place of the rattle of the coach wheel, and the whistle of the locomotive reaches farther than did of old, the tooting of the horn. When this change came in methods of transportation our stage driver gave up that occupation, and

rather than follow his coach horses to the Western plains, chose to apply himself to blacksmithing, which work he took up in Ionia. He also followed it in Otisco for twelve years before the war. During his sojourn in Indiana he was sick for seven weeks with typhoid fever, and one hour and a quarter with the Asiatic cholera. Upon his return home his health very poor, but by going to work he recovered health and appetite, and since then he has looked upon good, honest labor as a panacea for most of the ills to which humanity is heir.

Tabor Bentley, the grandfather of our subject was a decided Whig in the days of that party, and was a participant as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. In connection with his record it is of interest to note that his devotion to the Colonial interests aroused the enmity of some of his family. His brother William was loyal to England, and was known as a tory or as they were sometimes then called a Queensman. The same spirit of patriotism that had inspired Tabor Bentley roused his grandson to action, and in 1862, when the call for three hundred thousand men was issued by the lamented Lincoln, then President, he threw down his hammer and helped to raise a company, of which he enlisted fifty-one. Mr. Bentley enlisted August 8, 1862, and became a member of Company B, Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry. He was made Third Sergeant in his company, and served two years and eleven months, enduring many hardships from exposure. He was offered a captaincy in the Sixth United States Infantry, but refused on account of poor health.

The regiment went through the various scenes of the war not without honor or bloodshed. They were in the southwestern department and accompanied Sherman in his march to the sea, but the exposure of camp life impaired the health of our subject to such an extent that he was unable to do field duty, but being anxious to serve in the army as long as possible, he was detailed to aid in the work of recruiting for the service, in which he was unusually successful. At the close of the war he was mustered out of service July 8, 1865, and going to Chicago, kept a restaurant there for a time. He then returned to Ionia, where he has since lived. For three or four years he kept a "tavern" as it

was called in those days, but during that period he was in ill-health, disease having fastened on him as on many other soldier boys who endured hardships in the camp and on the field.

Undismayed by his poor health and slender purse, Mr. Bentley was ambitious for success and in 1865 bought the old tavern property on time. His friends declared it was folly and said that he could not meet his obligations, but he cleared his property of debt, and was prosperous in the pursuit of his business. Two years ago a disastrous fire leveled the building to the ground. In 1872 he returned to blacksmithing, a business he has since successfully prosecuted, combined with farming, as he purchased land in 1883. He has been a Republican ever since the party was organized, casting his first vote for John C. Fremont, and never missing a vote for President since. He became a member of the Church of Christ in Ionia in the winter of 1879.

On March 25, 1854, Mr. Bentley was united in marriage with Miss Eunice, the daughter of Paul P. Hewitt, an early pioneer of Otisco, and of the union two sons were born: Ralph S., a farmer in Ionia County; and Jay H., who lives in Dakota. The wife and mother died in October, 1866, and Mr. Bentley was again married January 3, 1870, choosing as his bride Addie R. Omans, a native of Onondaga County, N. Y. Their congenial wedded life was blessed to them by the birth of two children, one of whom, Millie M., died when eight months old. The son survives, Roy L., who is now a student of medicine in the State University at Ann Arbor. As would naturally be supposed, Mr. Bentley is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he also belongs to the Masonic order. His life has been uneventful, but not unhappy. He has always been employed, thereby escaping the misfortunes attending the career of the idler. Mr. Bentley has been a hard worker all his life, and was an expert at horse-shoeing. He has frequently shod eight span of horses in one day, taking off, refitting and setting their shoes without assistance. At the age of sixty-two he is still following his trade, although naturally he is obliged to take things a little slower. For the last twenty years he has adopted the pay-as-you-go system, taking

as his motto, "owe no man anything," and finds it a success. He remembers, as among the happiest days of his life, the early pioneer times, when deer, bears and turkeys fell the victims of his unerring rifle, and when the family for months would have no other meat excepting the venison with which he kept them supplied.



LORENTUS B. SOULE. This gentleman belongs to the bar of Ionia, Ionia County, and is one of the lawyers of the city who are well versed in legal lore and anxious to use their knowledge in such a way as to subserve the interests of justice. He has not accumulated a large property, but has the approval of his own conscience and the regard of those to whom his generous nature has endeared him. He has ever been openhearted toward those who were in need, giving way to his generous impulses, and taking a share in whatever would increase the happiness of others, even to the extent of more than ordinary self-sacrifice. To those who count success by dollars and cents, his life might seem a failure, but when looked at from the standpoint of righteousness and usefulness, it is seen to be quite the opposite.

As the patronymic indicates the Soule family is of French extraction. The parents of our subject were Job and Phebe (St. John) Soule, both of whom were born in Saratoga County, N. Y. The father was a farmer and was the possessor of a good property. In his family Lorentus was the sixth child and his birth took place in Montgomery County, N. Y., August 8, 1831. The lad attended the district school and then studied in a select school two years under a superior teacher—Prof. Winans. He took up the study of law, alternating it with teaching, his reading being done in the office of Field & Foster. He was admitted to the bar September 14, 1852, at Cortlandville, N. Y., and the following September opened an office in Friendship, Allegany County, remaining there until April, 1857.

In 1856 he was nominated by the American party

for District Attorney, but was beaten in the race. A year later he bade adieu to the East and established himself in Ionia in partnership with A. F. Bell. In this city he remained until January, 1860, when he opened an office in Detroit, but continued there only until August, 1861. Returning to Ionia he formed a partnership with W. B. Wells and the connection between the gentlemen continued until 1864, after which Mr. Soule practiced alone six years. He then went to Chicago, Ill., which was his home until about the time of the great fire when he became a resident of Grand Haven, this State. In August, 1872, he returned again to Ionia and here he has remained, giving earnest heed to his professional work and such other affairs as his character leads him to take an interest in.

Since September 14, 1853, the joys and sorrows of Mr. Soule have been shared by a faithful wife, whose maiden name was Martha A. Nelson and whose early home was in Otsego County, N. Y. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Soule and two survive. Frank A., who was born September 6, 1856, lives in Ionia, and Charlotte A. is still at home. Mrs. Soule died March 14, 1891, after a lingering illness. She was a member of the Christian Church, to which Mr. Soule and his daughter also belong. In politics Mr. Soule is a Republican.



OSMOND TOWER was born in Massachusetts, February 16, 1811, and was a genealogical descendant of John Tower, who emigrated from Hingham, England, to Hingham, New England, in 1609. Mr. Tower passed his youth in the Bay State, but having resolved to locate in the West came to Michigan in 1835, and was so well pleased with the prospects of Ionia, Ionia County, that he decided to locate here permanently. Accordingly he returned to Massachusetts for his family, whom he brought to this county in March, 1836.

Mr. Tower was married September 1, 1834, to Miss Martha Gallagher, who is now residing at the old homestead. After locating here he became identified with the best interests of the county, and

was a prominent factor in its growth. He served as United States Marshal of the Western District of Michigan, being appointed by Abraham Lincoln, and for forty years was a member of the School Board of Ionia. It is fitting that one so thoroughly identified with the development of the State and county should be represented in a volume containing the biographical records of the pioneers, who braved dangers, encountered innumerable hardships and overcame countless obstacles in the path of progress. Too much cannot be said in their praise, and the pages of history should perpetuate their careers for the perusal of coming generations.



CHARLES L. DOLPH is an intelligent young man who is employed as manager of the F. Neff & Prestle Company, in the manufacture of lumber and shingles at Harrison, Clare County, Mich. He is the youngest son of L. H. and Sarah (Akins) Dolph, of Montcalm County, and was born in New Lyme, Ohio, December 29, 1867. The next year he was brought by his parents to Montcalm County, Mich. He attended the common schools and after that the High School at Stanton.

At the age of nineteen Charles entered Alma College and in the course of time was graduated from the business department. He then went into the employ of H. P. Smith at Saginaw, and afterward entered the service as book-keeper and stenographer of C. H. Plummer, of Saginaw. In this gentleman he found a noble-hearted and friendly employer and they became stanch friends. He then engaged as traveling salesman for F. Neff & Prestle and later took charge of the mill which he is now operating, which had been run down under a bad system of credit. He succeeded in building up here a successful business.

Although now under twenty-five years of age Charles L. Dolph is a thorough and practical manufacturer of lumber. He is a brilliant young man and has a future before him of no mean promise. While in attendance at Alma College he became acquainted with Miss Dora Sprague, who was born at St. Louis, Mich. In September, 1889,

these young people were united in marriage at St. Louis, and have established a happy home at Harrison. Mr. Dolph is a Republican in politics and keenly alive to matters of public interest.



MRS. MELISSA CONVERSE, residing on section 20, Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of Genesee County, N. Y. where she was born October 28, 1832. She is a daughter of Ozias and Hannah (Lamb) Smith, both natives of New York. In the Revolutionary days her grandfather Lamb was taken a prisoner by the Indians. Mrs. Converse emigrated with her parents in 1838 to Washtenaw County, Mich. They came by lake to Detroit, passing through that city when it was a small town. From there they teamed it to Washtenaw County, where they resided until the death of both her parents. Four of her parents' seven children are still living—John, Nancy, Mrs. Brainard; Jeanette, Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Converse.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith were among the representative pioneers of Washtenaw County. The mother belonged to the Baptist Church and the father to the Christian Church. Their daughter Melissa was reared to womanhood in Washtenaw County and received the best education which they could give her in that day. Her marriage with Adin Converse took place February 19, 1853. Her husband was born August 5, 1813, in New York State. He was a son of Perrin and Phœbe Converse, both New Yorkers. He received a fair common-school education in his youth and was an extensive reader, being largely self-educated. He was in the service of the country during the Seminole War in Florida and took part in a number of fights.

From the union of Mr. and Mrs. Converse ten children were born, seven of whom still survive: George; Josephine, wife of Lewis Watson; Frank; Carrie, wife of A. Vanderbrook; Frederick; Cora, wife of Clarence Peck; and Ida. In 1853 Mr. and Mrs. Converse removed from Washtenaw County to Ionia County and settled on the farm now occupied by Mrs. Converse. They underwent the

usual hardships incident to the founding of a home in an unbroken forest, and the wife assisted her husband materially in the various duties which fell upon him. She now owns eighty acres of excellent and well-tilled land.

Mr. Converse departed this life March 7, 1877, respected by all who knew him. In his death the county lost one of her most honorable citizens. He was a Republican with Greenback proclivities. He held various offices in the gift of the township, and was always active in promoting the best interests of the community, especially in the line of education. He was a member of the Free Methodist Church, in the belief of which he carefully and affectionately trained his children, who will never cease to mourn his loss. Although he has long since gone to "that bourne from which no traveler returns," yet his memory is still cherished by those who knew and revered him. His neighborly kindnesses and his strict integrity made him well worthy of imitation not only by his posterity but by all who knew him.

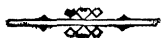


NICHOLAS ROACH is one of the prosperous farmers of North Plains Township, Ionia County, who began life there with very limited means. He has two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land but when he came here his purse contained but \$5. He is doing a large farming business and has one hundred head of sheep and other stock in proportion. He is a Democrat in politics and notwithstanding the changes in the administration he held the Postoffice for twenty-five years. This one fact shows the confidence and esteem of his neighbors.

The subject of this sketch was born in County Wexford, Ireland, in 1821. His parents, David and Mary (Mylon) Roach, were born, married and died at the old home in Ireland. They were the parents of one daughter and one son. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the Emerald Isle and came to New York in 1851. He emigrated to Michigan, and located in North Plains Township, Ionia County, on section 11. Here he

built a log house and improved the place. He had married in New York before coming to Michigan in 1851, Mary Roach, a native of Ireland. They were the parents of one child, David, who now resides in Colorado. The mother of David died in 1853 and she was laid to rest in the North Plains cemetery.

The second marriage of Mr. Roach took place in 1857. His wife was Margaret Mylon. They were the parents of six children, Maggie, deceased, Mary, Staze, Nicholas, Patrick, and Thomas. Their mother died in 1886 and was also buried in the North Plains cemetery. Mr. Roach is always interested in public affairs and is earnest in endeavoring to build up the interests of the community.



ABE L. MOON. This gentleman has an honorable rank among the young farmers of Ionia County, and like other native-born citizens is continuing with characteristic energy the development that was begun by the pioneers many decades since. He was born in Otisco Township, June 6, 1865, and owns and operates a farm of eighty acres, his residence being not far from his birthplace. Sixty acres of this land is improved and good buildings have been erected upon it, including everything that is necessary for the furtherance of his work.

In Herkimer County, N. Y., George Moon, father of our subject, was born, and thence he removed to this State about 1834. In 1845 he established himself in Otisco Township, buying eighty acres of land on which he remained until called hence, November 5, 1887. He was married in Smyrna to Rachel Willetts, daughter of Amos Willetts, who was a native of Niagara County, N. Y. The only surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. George Moon is he whose life is our topic, the others having died in infancy. The father served as Justice of the Peace two terms.

The educational advantages afforded by the schools during the childhood and youth of Abe L. Moon were sufficient to give him all necessary knowledge regarding the practical topics and he

made good use of his opportunities. With the exception of a year spent in Dakota, his time until he was of age was spent at home. A few months after attaining his majority he married, the rites of wedlock being celebrated between him and Miss Lizzie Buell, January 17, 1888. The congenial union has been blest by the birth of a son, Clayton, whose natal day was January 3, 1890. Mr. Moon belongs to the Patrons of Industry and to the Republican party. Intelligent, of manly character and genial manners, he is well regarded by his associates and his future promises to be prosperous.

Mrs. Moon is the daughter of T. S. and Mary (Rogerson) Buell, whose home is at Smyrna, where Mr. Buell is engaged at the trade of a carpenter. He is a native of Connecticut and Mrs. Buell was born in England. Besides Mrs. Moon their family includes three children—Martha B., George and Willie. Mrs. Moon received a good education and such instruction in domestic duties and social affairs as have fitted her for the place she occupies at home and in society.



GEORGE WURSTER. This name belongs to the list of energetic and intelligent men who have made of Ionia County what it is today, a thriving agricultural region, whose people are contented and happy, enjoying the best things of modern civilization. Mr. Wurster is located on section 1, Easton Township, where he took possession of a good farm in 1884. His estate which consists of seventy-seven acres, is productive and thoroughly improved, among the buildings upon it being a fine brick dwelling, put up by him the year he came here. In connection with ordinary farming Mr. Wurster pays considerable attention to raising high grade Durham cattle. His citizenship of Ionia County dates much farther back than the year mentioned and he has done much work here, chiefly in Ionia Township, which was his home for nearly a quarter of a century.

Mr. Wurster was born in the historic region known as the Black Forest, in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 18, 1837. He was the eldest son in

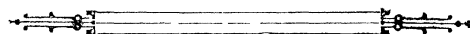
the family of George and Mary (Kern) Wurster, who were of old German families. His education in his native language was quite good, and since he came to America he has become familiar with English, so that he has been able to keep up with the times in gleaning news in either tongue. He took passage at Havre on the sailing vessel "William Tell" in the fall of 1852, and after a voyage of little more than a month landed in New York City, October 23. He came direct to this State, making Washtenaw County his objective point, and worked there by the month as a farm hand for several years, receiving from \$7 to \$15 as his wages.

From that county he came to Ionia which has been his permanent abode. For some time he continued the work in which he had previously been engaged and he also clerked in a store for a few months. After his marriage which took place July 5, 1862, he settled upon a farm and lived as do others who are building up their finances, improving his condition from year to year and enlarging his farming operations. It will be seen that he has made good use of his time when we note the fact that he landed in New York with twenty-five cents, and an indebtedness of \$15 hanging over him. Selfmade in the financial sense, he has won his competence by honest industry and the exercise of wise economy. While in Ionia Township he served two terms as Treasurer and two as Supervisor, with credit to himself and his constituents. Since he came to Easton Township he has discharged the duties of Supervisor one year.

The wife of Mr. Wurster was born in Ontario County, N. Y., March 22, 1828, and is a daughter of Alexander and Grizle (Chapman) Armstrong. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Connecticut, and the paternal ancestors were Scotch. Her mother's father was a Revolutionary soldier. She remained in her native State until she was eight years old, when she came with her parents to Washtenaw County where Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong died. Mr. Armstrong had been twice married and was the father of seven children but two of whom are now living: Elizabeth, wife of Hiram Mace, in Utah, and Emily J., wife of our subject. The latter grew to maturity in this State

and in 1850 was married to M. M. Armstrong who died in 1859, leaving her with four children. Her sons and daughters by that marriage are Alice, now the wife of Charles Castle, of Ionia Township; Adelaide, who married Charles Hoyt and lives in Detroit; Theodore, a resident of Minnesota, and Mathew, whose home is in Ronald Township. Mrs. Wurster has borne her present husband one daughter, Mary E., who lives in Ionia Township and is the wife of Henry Robertson.

Mr. Wurster is convinced of the worth of Republican principles and is their unfailing supporter. He is identified with the Patrons of Industry and takes a genuine interest in such movements as he believes will be for the benefit of society. He contributes to the support of religious institutions, although he is not a church member, but his estimable wife belongs to the Presbyterian Society. She is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, capable of doing much to advance the social life of the section, and with her husband she is active and esteemed.



JUDGE ALFRED M. WILLETT is one of the most favorably known of Ionia's citizens. He has an excellent record as a soldier, is known to have shown business ability of a high order, and in his connection with public affairs he has advanced the interests of his constituents by zealously advocating wise projects in which they were engaged. He is a native of the Empire State and is descended from the old Knickerbocker stock which settled in the Hudson River Valley in an early day. His mother was a daughter of William Willett, of New Jersey. The original name of the Willett family was Smith, but by an act of the Legislature of Michigan was changed to Willett. The father of Judge Willett was Alfred F. Smith, who was born at Brookhaven, L. I., in 1804, and died in the Empire State in August, 1844. He was a tanner, currier, farmer and shoemaker. Mrs. Hannah (Smith) Willett breathed her last December 28, 1874, having survived her husband thirty years. The parental family con-

sisted of five children, of whom those now living are: Gordon A. and Alfred Milan, of Ionia; and James W., a lumberman at Stanton, Montcalm County. The deceased are Abram W., who died in Wayne County, N. Y., and Jane, wife of James R. Cummings, whose demise occurred at Augusta, Kalamazoo County, this State.

Alfred M. Willett was born in Oswego County, N. Y., April 18, 1829, and his early home was on a farm. After his father's death he learned the carpenter's trade, working at it in the summer and teaching in the winter. He had become well versed in the common branches and had the tact and perseverance necessary to one who would be an instructor of youth. In 1850 he made his way to Minnesota and spent a summer at St. Anthony's Falls, now East Minneapolis. In November of the same year he returned to New York, where he remained until the fall of 1853. His next change of residence was to this State, and from his arrival in Ionia County until 1860 he worked at his trade in Muir. In the latter part of that year he bought a farm and abandoned his trade for the life of a farmer.

The war broke in upon Mr. Willett's dreams of quiet, rural life, and in 1861 he recruited a company which, in the early months of its career, was popularly known as "Willett's Fifth Company of Sharp-Shooters." It was mustered into Col. Berdan's famous regiment and did a great deal of duty on outposts and as skirmishers. It was one of the six companies of sharp-shooters organized in Michigan and of its one hundred and eleven members Ionia County contributed forty-eight, Montcalm thirty, Washtenaw eleven, Eaton seven, Clinton four, St. Joseph three, and Ingham, Wayne, Monroe and St. Clair each one. The company rendezvoused at Detroit and was mustered into service March 4, 1862. Capt. Willett was in active service thirteen months, when he resigned on account of disability.

After his return from Southern battlefields Capt. Willett made his farm one of the best in the vicinity, rendering it popular by his great success in breeding fine sheep. In 1880 he was elected a member of the Legislature, and re-elected in 1882. He has held various minor offices and in 1888

was elected Probate Judge. He is President of the Central Fair Association and of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, is now serving his third term as a Director of the first corporation and is also a Director of the County Fair Association. He takes an active interest in agricultural matters and the farmers find in him a wise counselor and staunch friend.

At the bride's home in New York, September 8, 1852, Judge Willett was married to Miss Julia Yager, daughter of Wandel Yager. The happy union has been blest by the birth of three children, the youngest of whom, Allie J., is at home. Eva M. is the wife of James Bamborough, of Ionia Township, and Carrie H. is married to John D. Strachan, a druggist in Muir. Judge and Mrs. Willett are active and devoted members of the Church of Christ and respond liberally to all its calls upon their time or means. The Judge is a most estimable citizen, a friend of the poor, a helper of the weak and a thoroughly honest and conscientious man. In politics the Judge is, and always has been, a staunch Republican.



LARS P. SORENSON, a merchant at Lake View, was born in Denmark, near Copenhagen, February 24, 1845. He is a son of Soren Nelson and Tina L. P. Sorenson, natives of Denmark, where they lived and died. Both parents were earnest and consistent members of the Lutheran Church, and brought up their seven children in that faith. They trained them earnestly in habits of industry and frugality and instructed them according to the best opportunities furnished in their country. Our subject was the first-born, and now is the sole survivor of the family.

In 1868 L. P. Sorenson came to America without money and without the ability to speak the English language. He trusted alone to his honest intentions to earn a livelihood, and his willingness to do hard work. He had an excellent trade and one that would command patronage in a new country. He came to Greenville, Mich., and worked at

cabinet-making for eight years. He then removed to Lake View, April 4, 1876, and engaged in the mercantile business on a small scale.

Mr. Sorenson is the pioneer merchant of the village, and his prosperity is the direct result of pluck and perseverance, coupled with the confidence always granted to a man of integrity. He opened up his store with less than \$1,000 worth of goods, which he bought on credit. His business has steadily grown, and he now carries a stock of about \$15,000 of general merchandise. He has now been in business longer than any man in Lake View, and has a large trade, and the general confidence of the community. All that he has, he has made himself. He is looked upon as one of the solid men of Lake View, and his elegant residence is the pride of the village. He is a Republican in politics, and he has been repeatedly elected to numerous town and county offices, thereby receiving a proof of the esteem in which he is held by his neighbors. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and a Free and Accepted Mason of the third degree. He was joined for life March 2, 1872, to one of his own countrywomen, Tina Rasmuson, of Greenville. To them have been given five children, who all reside at home: Emma, Harry, Charles, Line and Birdie.



ELDER JEROME FARGO, one of the oldest residents of Montcalm County, now residing on section 14, Eureka Township, is a prominent and influential man. He was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., September 26, 1824. Both his father, Daniel Jesse, and his grandfather Daniel were New Yorkers. Three traditional brothers of Colonial days were the founders of the Fargo family in this country. The family is of English descent. The grandfather of our subject, a Herkimer County, N. Y. farmer, died in this county when upwards of eighty-seven years of age. The father came to Michigan in 1837, and to this county in 1847. He was a member of the Baptist Church and strongly opposed to Masonry. His wife was Margaret Devendorf, and was born September 26, 1797, in Herkimer County, N. Y., of Holland de-

scent. She bore ten children, nine of whom grew to maturity, namely: John D., Mary C. (Mrs. Huffman), Gibson S., Jerome, Elizabeth (Mrs. Shell); Dan T., Dwight, Hiram B., Margaret M., and Adeline L. (Mrs. Gibbs). She was a devoted and lovely Christian, and a member of the First Baptist Church, and died in April 7, 1862, aged sixty-four years, six months and nineteen days. Daniel Fargo, Jr., died December 11, 1870, aged seventy-eight years and four months.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools, and is in all respects a self-made man. He came to Lenawee County, Mich. with his parents in 1837, but after living with them there for four years, returned to Ohio and New York State, in 1841. He came again to Ionia County, Mich., in 1842, and in the fall of 1846 settled in Montcalm County, spending that winter lumbering on the Flatt River. In the spring of 1847 he and his brother John D. bought two hundred and forty-four acres of land in Fairplains Township. This they cleared up and divided between them, lumbering winters while clearing up the farm. Our subject lived on the farm for twenty-five years and had it finely improved and furnished with spacious buildings.

Mr. Fargo fared hardly during the first few years of his residence in the county. His market was at Grand Rapids or Ionia. Deer, bears and Indians were here in abundance. He sold his farm in 1872, and removed to his present location. His fine large frame residence, which he erected in 1873, two miles east of Greenville, is a credit to the neighborhood. He built his barn in 1872.

Mr. Fargo was married September 10, 1853, to Rachel C. King, who was born in Chemung County, N. Y., May 18, 1834. Their home has never been blessed by the advent of children of their own. To fill this vacancy they adopted an infant whom they named Dora, and who is now a beautiful and accomplished young lady, the comfort of her adopted father, who mourns the loss of his beloved wife who departed from earth August 30, 1889.

The subject of this sketch formerly belonged to the Baptist Church, but accepted the faith of Seventh Day Adventists in 1860, and has been for fifteen years a preacher of the doctrines of that

denomination. He is also a Director and stockholder of the Sanitarium at Battle Creek, Mich., which is under the management of that denomination. He has served for ten years as President of the State Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, and has been a member of the State Conference Committee since 1873. He is active in Sabbath-school work, and has been Superintendent of their Sabbath-School for several years.



JOHAN C. BLANCHARD. Ionia has no citizen more justly entitled to be called a self-made man than Mr. Blanchard, who, by innate ability and indomitable perseverance has overcome every obstacle that stood in the way of success, and one by one crossed each impediment in his path. His life history presents some peculiar features, and the thoughtful reader will wonder that his character was not ruined by his surroundings, rather than that he became a man entitled to respect and wielding an unusual influence on the side of right living. His standing among the members of the bar is high, as he has many qualifications which fit him for successful public life. As a criminal lawyer he is acknowledged to be at the head of his profession in Michigan.

Mr. Blanchard is a native of the Empire State, born in Mentz, Cayuga County, September 19, 1822. His father, Washington Z. Blanchard, was born at Andover, Mass., and went from his native place to Cayuga County, N. Y., where he did his professional reading and was engaged in the practice of medicine some years. There he married Hannah, eldest daughter of the Rev. Mr. Jeffries, a lineal descendant of the renowned Judge Jeffries of England. When their son John was a boy, Doctor and Mrs. Blanchard removed to Nunda, a village whose Indian name means hill country. The lad attended Geneseo Academy, where ex-Gov. Begole was a fellow student. He also studied for a time in Cayuga Institute but he never attended school after he entered his teens.

In the fall of 1836, being then fourteen years

old, young Blanchard ran away from home, and going to Port Byron, worked until he got \$10 per month. He then took the tow-path for Chicago, but on reaching Detroit was put off the boat on Oliver Newbury's dock, as his money was gone. He found friends in the City of the Straits and cut wood for a living a short time. He then went to Livingston County and secured work. There he met a man who had known him at home and who at once wrote to his parents who followed him to this State, greatly surprising him by their arrival upon the scene. Before winter had come young Blanchard had gone from Livingston to Shiawasee County, where he lived with an Indian family and was adopted by them, having bestowed upon him the name Optupsue, which means "to drive, to push, to overcome." In the Indian family was a son called Pewamo, and the village of that name was named for him by our subject.

While living with the Shaco family young Blanchard made \$53, with which he came to Ionia County the ensuing year, through a trackless wilderness, and located forty acres of land, paid for it out of his fund and had \$3 left. He still has the patent for the tract, which is described as northeast quarter of northeast quarter of section 11, township 6, range 3 west. While en route to and from Shiawasee County Mr. Blanchard slept in the woods. In July, 1838, he came again to Ionia County, and locating at Lyons worked out until he was seventeen years old. The wages bargained for were \$12 per month, but his employer gave him \$20, as he was found to be industrious, faithful and efficient. His parents had reached this State while he was living with the Indians, and he had been persuaded to adopt a more civilized mode of life than was possible with them.

December 31, 1839, was the date of the entrance of young Blanchard into the law office of Roof & Bell as a student, and he began to practice when he was but nineteen years old, although he was not admitted to the bar until the next year, when he passed the requisite examination in Clinton County. When he reached his majority he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney by Gov. Barry and held the office six years, being elected after the law was changed. At the early age of twenty-

three years he was admitted to practice in the United States Court, his admittance being brought about by his defense of a man who was arrested for counterfeiting Mexican dollars. This case came before the United States Court in Detroit and the fact of the counterfeiting was established and the plates had been produced. Blanchard, who was defending the criminal, simply cited the attention of the judge to the fact that United States laws looked only to the protection of United States moneys and had nothing to do with foreign coin; that each Government was presumed to take care of its own interests. On this technical plea the prisoner was discharged.

In 1850 Mr. Blanchard located in Ionia where he has continued to make his home. He is one of the owners with Judge Lovell of the Ionia Stone Quarry from which beautiful building stone of variegated colors is taken out. In 1856 he was appointed by President Buchanan Registrar of the land office. He was President of Ionia village board prior to its organization as a city two years, School Director nine years and Prosecuting Attorney five years. He is one of the Trustees of Albion College, to the endowment of which he has liberally contributed. He has distinguished himself as a speaker in the interests of the Democratic party, with which he is at one in theory, although he is somewhat independent in his use of the ballot, particularly in local elections. In 1872 he made a good race for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket, but his party was left behind that year. He is a member of the Masonic Order and finds his religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

October 6, 1845, Mr. Blanchard was married to Miss Harriet Augusta Brewster, who is a lineal descendant of Elisha Brewster of the Mayflower. Her father was Frederick Brewster, of Burlington, Vt. Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard have four children: Hannah Cornelia, wife of Thomas G. Stevenson; Lucia A., wife of Benjamin Vosper; Ellen Augusta, wife of A. L. Todd, and John C., Jr. The son is a jeweler by trade and he and his sisters Hannah and Lucia, still live in Ionia. Mrs. Todd resides upon a farm in Gratiot County. Mr. Blanchard owns one thousand acres of land on Bois Blanc Island,

where he has a home, with a small steamboat for the accommodation of his family and friends. The landed estate of the family includes twenty-four hundred acres. Mr. Blanchard has tried thirty-six murder cases, being retained for the defendant on thirty of these and never losing a case, while his prosecutions nearly always resulted in conviction.

The following somewhat amusing incident occurred while Ionia County was yet a forest. Jeremiah Hunt and Ann Tripp, a young couple desirous of being married, were taken by Mr. Blanchard to a Justice of the Peace, who was unaccustomed to the duties of his office. He was so confused at the prospect of an untried duty that he stood like one confounded not knowing what to do or which way to turn until Blanchard poked him in the ribs and told him to go ahead. With the desperate resolve of one who felt that something must be done, the Squire suddenly cried out in a loud voice "Mr. Jeremiah Hunt, hold up your hand. Do you swear by God Almighty that you take this woman for your wife?" The assent being given the Squire rapidly addressed the same form of inquiry to the woman, and upon being similarly answered, yelled, "then I swear by God Almighty that you are man and wife, and God Almighty's curse on the one that shall separate you." Having delivered himself of that remarkable and original form of joining two souls, the unhappy Justice subsided, thankful that he had passed through the trying ordeal.



JOHN W. KLOTZ. Many Americans are now a days protesting against excessive and unrestricted emigration. America has so long been painted in glowing colors as an El Dorado that the lazy and worthless of many nations have turned their faces hither, hoping to pick up gold in the streets without the alchemy of character and industry. But forty years ago conditions were different; at that period the emigrants who came to us from foreign lands were largely of the most worthy character. They brought with them sturdy principles of integrity, perseverance

and a capacity for hard work. Among those who came in that day from Germany were the parents of our subject, both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, John C. Klotz born January 10, 1809, and Fredericka M. (Treiber) Klotz, who was born May 20, 1811.

John C. Klotz was a weaver by trade while in Germany but later he took up the business of farming. He married his wife in their native city January 24, 1836, and started for the United States April 23, 1853, landing at New York. They went at once to Plymouth, Wayne County, Mich., arriving there June 11, of that year. Here they remained for two years and then came on to Orange Township, Ionia County, October 5, 1855. They settled on section 23, where they still reside, all alone, having brought up and launched upon the world three children—Augustus F., Mrs. Alexander Gibbs and our subject.

John W. Klotz was born May 30, 1842, in Wurtemberg and was therefore eleven years old when he accompanied his parents to America. His schooling was five years in Germany and nine months in this country, but his education went on all the time, and in the home of his honorable and high-spirited parents he learned the lessons of bravery and patriotism, to both his native and adopted countries. The sturdy growth of these principles was helped forward by the hard work which he took hold of in his early youth, as he spent his early manhood with ax in hand among the primeval trees of Michigan. When the Civil War broke out he was nineteen years of age and too young to enlist without his father's consent, but that parent cheerfully and unfalteringly signed the papers which were necessary to his legal enlistment and sent him into the army to fight for their adopted country. He entered the army September 5, 1861, in Company D, Ninth Michigan Infantry. This first Michigan regiment to enter upon active duty in the Western Department of the army was organized at Ft. Wayne, Detroit, and was sent at once to West Point, Ky., which he reached October 25, 1861. Having erected fortifications upon Muldrew's Hill they left January 4, 1862, for Elizabethtown, Ky., but soon marched back again to West Point. They were sent by steamer to Nash-

ville, Tenn., arriving there March 23. During the month of May this intrepid regiment did much hard marching in the wake of the rebel Gen. Morgan's forces. May 28 they started on an expedition under Gen. Negley to Chattanooga, Tenn., in which they indulged in considerable hot skirmishing. June 8 they chased the last of the rebels over the Tennessee River into Chattanooga and followed this up by a great deal of hard marching until the latter part of August, when they were set to guarding railroad bridges. In a chance encounter with Division Two from the Eighteenth Ohio and Company D, of the Ninth Michigan, the three companies of brave boys gave Gen. Forest all he wanted to fight. Thirteen rebels were buried on the field and a number were carried off for interment.

Then began the famous race with rebel Gen. Bragg's army on the road to Louisville. After leaving Gallatin Junction four companies of the Ninth Michigan were again isolated and ran into Forest's Division, losing thereby two of their best officers, but they came out of that encounter with flying colors. They were next with Gen. Rosecrans in the battle of Stone River, thence following on to Chickamauga with the army of the Cumberland, taking part in that battle on the second day. Mr. Klotz was all through the siege of Chattanooga, from September 22, until November 25, and twice aided a guarding a train of provisions through the mountains. Having so bravely served out a term of enlistment many a foreign-born citizen would have thought his duty done and would gladly have retired to a peaceful home, but not so our young hero, although having but just reached his majority. He re-enlisted December 7, 1863, "for three years or the war," at Chattanooga, Tenn., coming home on a thirty-days' leave of absence to gladden the hearts of his parents.

Returning to Chattanooga in the latter part of February, 1864, he was detailed to act as Orderly to Maj.-Gen. George H. Thomas. This personal connection with the great general is a precious memory to Mr. Klotz and is regarded by all his friends as a just tribute to his bravery and devotion to the cause. He has a number of very valuable souvenirs of that period of his engagement, one of which is an autograph letter very highly recom-



A. W. Nichols

mending him and signed by Gen. George H. Thomas; also one from Col. Robert H. Ramsey. He also has in his possession a piece of the flag which formed the colors of Gen. Rosecrans' headquarters, and a large piece of the colors of Gen. W. T. Sherman's headquarters. He served as personal Orderly for Gen. Thomas from May 1, 1864, until September 15, 1865.

Our subject served altogether four years and twenty-two days and was in numerous hard-fought battles, having never been absent from his command. He had a constitution of iron but came home with health broken and has been afflicted with rheumatism and other difficulties ever since. He was with Gen. Thomas at the battle of Nashville and followed him through all his movements, being the only man of his regiment who had the privilege of seeing Gen. Hood's defeat. He was brought into personal relations with all the Union generals of the western army, also with Andrew Johnson before he was President.

Upon leaving the army he at once settled down to farm work. He bought his present farm on section 14 in 1865, it then being a swamp, wholly unimproved. He promptly began cutting it and now has about half of his eighty acres in good condition for agriculture, all done under his own hand as he has given his entire attention to his farm. He married, February 26, 1861, Miss Sophie E. Bromberg, a daughter of Gustav and Sophie (Lute) Bromberg, both natives of Prussia who emigrated to America in 1857 and coming on directly to Michigan settled at first in Wayne County. Two years later they went into Eaton County and settled there in 1860 upon a raw farm. Mrs. Bromberg died February 12, 1891. Her husband survives her at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, who are all living. One daughter, Marena L. Bromberg, is a graduate of the Woman's Medical College of Chicago, having received her degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1890, and having begun practice in Chicago.

Mrs. L. Klotz was born July 19, 1851, in Prussia. She and her husband are the parents of two children—Lula A., born March 15, 1872, and Florence B., June 12, 1875. The former was gradu-

ated from the Portland High School in 1889, and has taught five terms of school and intends making this a profession. The second daughter is now carrying on her studies in the same High School. They are all members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Klotz is active and where he occupies the office of Steward. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Portland. He has always taken a deep interest in political affairs and votes the Republican ticket; a strictly temperate man he receives the universal respect of his neighbors and has held the position of Highway Commissioner of Orange Township. In 1880 he took the United States census but refused the work in 1890. Among his treasures is an old Springfield rifle which he carried through the war. With this trusted weapon he shot and killed, in 1866, a full-grown bear in the top of a high basswood tree near his home. Mrs. Klotz was a student at the High School at Charlotte and afterward taught in Eaton County for two years. They are both active in Sunday-school work.



ALVA W. NICHOLS, M. D., a highly honored physician of Greenville, Montcalm County, enjoys a wide-spread reputation professionally, belonging to a professional family who have been instructors for half a century, and many of whom are members of the medical fraternity. He was born in Cannon Township, Kent County, Mich., October 6, 1848, and is a son of Charles M. and Mary A. (Winslow) Nichols, natives of Batavia and Stockholm, N. Y.

Charles M. Nichols was a teacher and also an instructor in penmanship. He was educated at Oberlin, Ohio, and came to Michigan and settled at and near Grand Rapids. For some years he was School Inspector and Justice of the Peace, and was prominent in the Episcopal Church, and many years secretary of the Plainfield parish, and held that position at the time of his death which occurred in 1861. He was Principal of the Grand Rapids School, also of the schools at Plainfield and Cannonsburg for many years, while at the same time he

owned and managed a farm at Cannon. His wife was also a teacher at Grand Rapids and vicinity for many years, and now resides in that city. Her father, Dr. Jason Winslow, came West and settled in Grand Rapids, and was the second practicing physician in that city where he died in 1843. He was highly educated and bore a fine professional reputation. Of his family of two children, Maria, late Mrs. H. Leonard, was the eldest.

The sisters of our subject are mostly engaged in professional life. The eldest, Elmira M., now the wife of Dr. W. C. Stone, of Chicago, is a graduate of the Normal School at Ypsilanti, Mich., of the class of 1876, and was for many years a Principal in the schools at Grand Rapids and Chicago. Emma M. is the wife of George P. Wandy, of Grand Rapids, a member of the law firm of Fletcher & Wandy. She is a graduate of the Women's Medical College, Chicago, of the class of 1880, and has been in active practice in Chicago and Grand Rapids, the latter place being her present home. She was associated with the late W. H. Byford in the Women's Hospital of Chicago. She also taught in Grand Rapids and Chicago. The next sister, Kate M., is also a physician, and is the wife of George S. Finney, who is interested in real estate and mineral lands in the Upper Peninsula, Mich. Harriette A., Mrs. A. A. Barr, the fourth sister, resides in Grand Rapids. An aunt of our subject, late Mrs. H. Leonard, was for many years a teacher in Grand Rapids, and for several years the Principal of the Union High School.

Until Dr. Nichols reached his thirteenth year he attended no school but his father's. After the death of that parent he attended district schools until sixteen years of age, when he went to Grand Rapids and attended the High School, and the late Prof. Everett's select school. In the spring of 1869 he came to Greenville, entering the High School in the academic department, Prof. C. W. Borst, Principal, and later Prof. S. S. Babcock, now a member of the State Board of Education. From the time our subject was thirteen years of age he worked on the farm and at masonry during vacations. In the latter work he received \$3 per day, which he says he scarcely thinks he earned, however he became quite proficient as a lather and

plasterer. In the spring of 1867 he was engaged in running logs for a month or more on Rogue River, and in 1868 was so engaged on Flat River. Although rather young for the heavy work of breaking log jams yet he was proficient as a log rider, which enabled him to keep his position. In 1866 he became restless in school and drove his mother's team to Big Rapids through the dense forests, sold out his load of corn and oats and entered the employ of the Rust Lumber Company, on the Big Muskegon River. They paid him \$4 per day and he remained with them two months. During the latter years of his schooling he taught school about a year and a half. From early boyhood our subject went by the name of Doctor, for he had early shown a liking for the profession, and was always a student of his grandfather's library of medical works.

In 1871 our subject was in the office mornings and evenings of Drs. Mulhern and Morgan. In 1872-73 he attended the State University at Ann Arbor, and was graduated by the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, in New York City, in 1874. In 1882 he took a special course at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, on diseases of the eye and ear, under Profs. Noyes and Mittendorf. At the same time he took a special course in the outdoor department of Bellevue Hospital, under Prof. Frank H. Bosworth.

Greenville has been the center of Dr. Nichols' eighteen years of active practice of his profession, and he enjoys a high reputation as a physician and surgeon. He is President of the Northern Michigan Agricultural Society and a member of the American Medical Association, also of the Michigan State Medical Society, in which he has read several papers, one of which, on "Chronic Catarrh," was widely copied by the medical journals of the country. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a man who thinks for himself on political questions, was interested in the Tilden campaign of 1876, but was always opposed to Wall Street financiering. He thinks that nothing could stand before the Republican party if it had continued to carry out the financial policy of 1861 and 1862. In 1878 Dr. Nichols became a member of the Green-

back party, and has made vigorous campaigns in the county and State. He never missed a convention of the party in the county, State or nation until its death, and was Chairman of the County Committee for ten years and a member of the State Central Committee for several years. In 1882 ex-Gov. Josiah W. Begole was elected, being the second Greenback Governor of the United States. The Governor on assuming his office appointed our subject a member of the Board of Trustees of the Michigan Asylum for the Insane, of Kalamazoo, which office he held for six years. For three and a half years he held a position as Pension Examining Surgeon.

In 1886 the subject of this sketch was a candidate for the State Senate on the Fusion ticket. He ran several hundred ahead of his ticket but lost the election. In this campaign he was opposed by the Hon. L. G. Palmer. He was a Presidential elector on the Fusion ticket of 1888. On March 12, 1891, he was elected President of the Citizen's Alliance, of Michigan, and is actively interested in the new People's party. He has been Supervisor of the Second Ward of the city of Greenville for three years, the first time being elected on the Fusion or Union ticket, but his assessment being so satisfactory to the majority of the property holders that since then he has been elected on slips, although opposed by both the old parties.

The *Independent*, the Republican organ of the city, has this to say of him April 9, 1891, after the spring election: "Dr. A. W. Nichols, the political hustler, was nominated by no party, and his name was printed on no ticket, but he "got there all the same," on slips pasted nearly equally on the Republican and Democratic tickets. He had fourteen majority over both opposing candidates. For a man thus to run into office and re-elect himself to the same office, supported by neither political and opposed by both political parties is a political marvel."

Dr. Nichols is the proprietor of a fine drug and jewelry store in Greenville, and has landed interests in the northern sections of the State. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum and Knights of Honor. He received the nomination for County Superintendent in 1874, but the

office was abolished by an act of the Legislature before the election. He is a man of pleasant address and always ready to help any good cause. All Greenville and country around may be counted his friends, and his professional skill is widely acknowledged. He has performed a large number of surgical operations with great success, many of them difficult and some of them rare, hence his standing as a surgeon in this part of Michigan is unsurpassed.



REV. JOHN COMPTON. On ministers of the Gospel the people look with unmeasured confidence; as a matter of fact in the world's history it cannot be denied that ministers have mainly controlled the opinions of mankind respecting Divinity. The solemn authority associated with their office, their means of gaining information, have always put in the hands of the clergy the power of molding the religious opinions of men. "Like priest, like people," is an adage whose truth is illustrated on every page of history. Among the large number of consecrated ministers, who are elevating the standard of piety and influencing the moral characters of this age, especial mention belongs to the Rev. John Compton, to whom for more than sixty years has been entrusted the sacred office of ministering to the spiritual needs of mankind.

In his sixteenth year Mr. Compton was converted to Christ, and since that time has lived a consistent, God-fearing life. Two years after his conversion he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bath, Steuben County, N. Y., whither he had gone to learn the trade of a tailor. Three months after joining the church, he was appointed Class-Leader and has served in this capacity for many years. Later he was licensed to exhort and preach and given appointments to fill, and wherever sent, preached with the high aim of pleasing God and impelling Christians to lofty aspirations after glory, honor and immortality. He was ordained a local deacon of the Methodist Episcopal Church more than thirty years ago and since that time has united in marriage ninety-one couples, officiated at

a great many funerals, and preached innumerable discourses.

Of those in whose association the greater part of Mr. Compton's life has been passed, he is almost the sole survivor, and is now in the eighty-second year of his age. He was born September 6, 1809, in Perth Amboy, N. J., to John and Eliza (Coriell) Compton. His father died when he was only two years old, but his mother managed to keep the family together until the children had attained manhood and womanhood, and were prepared to fight life's battle for themselves. Of the nine children included in the family circle, our subject is the only one now living. John Compton, Sr., was a native of England, whence he and his brothers David and William came to America at a very early day and settled in New Jersey. He was a weaver of fine linen in the Old Country, but did not follow his trade in the United States.

In his personal characteristics, the father of our subject was very firm and determined; for more than thirty years he was a Deacon in the Baptist Church, and died in the full triumphs of his faith. To the last he prayed earnestly and devotedly, even when unable to arise from his sick bed, and passed quietly away, happy in a Savior's love. It was largely due to the influence of religious parents that our subject owes his greatest successes in life, for his widowed mother early instilled into his mind principles of truth, religion and honor. The mother, who was a native of New Jersey, died at the age of sixty-five years, and although not so active in religion as the husband, was equally as zealous.

When he was still quite young, our subject accompanied his mother to Steuben County, N. Y., where he grew to man's estate. In Bath, that county, he learned the tailor's trade, at which he was employed for about fifteen years. On July 14, 1831, he was united in marriage with Miss Ann Hull, the daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Chapman) Hull and an estimable Christian woman. To them were born four children, three living, namely: Martin, who married Miss Eliza J. Rice; Elvira, the widow of John Ramsey; and Jane Elizabeth, wife of Sylvanus Peabody, of Mulliken. After a happy wedded life of ten years, the devoted wife and

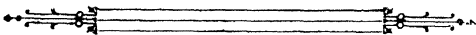
affectionate mother was called from earth September 27, 1841. She was an ardent worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she was a consistent member, and died praising her Redeemer. Her life adorned her sex and death left the praises of an untarnished name on the lips of all who knew her, while the memory of her worth is graven deep in the afflicted hearts dear to her. Her children are all members of the same church in which she worshipped and are prominent in business and social circles.

The second marriage of Mr. Compton was consummated February 14, 1842, when Elizabeth Nickle became his wife, and for more than a half century they have trod life's pathway side by side. Mrs. Compton was born in Lettermakenny, County Donegal, Ireland, March 28, 1797, to John and Margaret Nickle. Of this union one daughter, Didama Ann, was born, but died at the age of two years. Mrs. Compton, or Aunt Betsey, as she is familiarly known, is devotedly attached to home and household, and a wise and affectionate mother to her step children, whom she tenderly cared for during their residence under the parental roof.

In township affairs Mr. Compton has always been useful and prominent. At the first election, when the township was set apart by itself, he was elected Town Clerk, and was Highway Commissioner, School Inspector, and the first Postmaster in the township of Danby. His son carried the mail, which was then very light, and the salary received in compensation for his services was even lighter. Mr. Compton was for a quarter of a century Notary Public, but amid all these duties always found time to preach the Gospel, and never omitted family worship night and morning. His house was the minister's home. Through his long life he has always been temperate in all things, never taking a drink at the bar in his life, never using tobacco in any form, and it is to these temperate habits that he owes much of his strength in his old age. In politics he was never aggressive, but has usually been allied with the Republican party and the temperance cause.

The first missionary sermon ever preached in Danby was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Moneat in Mr. Compton's house in June 9, 1838, and there was

then organized a class of nine members, of whom our subject is the only survivor. Toward the building of churches he has always contributed largely, and was especially instrumental in securing the erection of the church near his home. While he has engaged in preaching many years, he has labored not for the meat that perisheth, and has received little compensation in the line of money, but has at the same time contributed to the support of other ministers. He was for several years a preacher for the Indians and a teacher of their children, for a short time receiving for his services \$10 per month. He found his little pupils quite bright and in writing they were especially apt. He helped to build the Indian Mission at Danby, hauling the first lumber and helping in every way possible. His preaching, although he was compelled to use an interpreter much of the time, was productive of much good. His Indian name was Te-kum-a-ga-zhe, which meant "wade through the river." Their only complaint of him was because he couldn't be more with them. It is the delight of the rising generation to give all honor to the worthy aged people, now so rapidly passing from earth, who have been instrumental in developing the country and influencing its progress, and as one of these the name of John Compton will be held in reverence long after his eyes shall have been closed in death.



BENONI HOLCOMB. It affords the publishers of this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM pleasure to present to its readers a brief outline of the life of one of the honorable and self-sacrificing men who have done so much toward the development of Ionia County. Mr. Holcomb and his wife, who deserves equal credit with him for her cheerful endurance of the discomforts and toils of pioneer life, came to this county in 1845, and located in Easton Township, where they have since resided. They have a good property, consisting of one hundred and nine acres of land on which are to be seen the many conveniences which belong to modern farm life. Here they are spending their declining years in the enjoyment of the ease of

mind which comes of well-spent lives, and the rest which properly follows their long years of toil.

In Washington County, N. Y., December 18, 1812, Mr. Holcomb opened his eyes to the light. His parents were Jesse and Lucy (Webb) Holcomb, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts respectively. A brother of his mother was an officer in the Colonial army during the Revolution. When Benoni was twenty years old the family went to Genesee County, N. Y., where his father subsequently died; the mother spent her last years in Ionia County, this State. In 1836 our subject came West and located in St. Clair County, where he remained until he became a citizen of Ionia County. He is therefore personally cognizant of affairs connected with the Territorial days as well as with those of later times.

Mr. Holcomb bought one hundred and ten acres of land on section 1, Easton Township, to which he made his way through a trackless forest, and where he bravely settled in the midst of a region of wildness. He was accompanied by a wife, formerly Miss Lucy A. Wedge, with whom he was united September 24, 1843. She was born in Connecticut June 29, 1823, being a daughter of Moses and Mary A. (Draper) Wedge. She is one of a large family of whom Sanford, Mrs. Mary A. McCoy, Oliver, Mrs. Harriet E. Malone, Henry, George and Mrs. Melissa Harter survive, also living in Ionia County. The widowed mother resides in the county seat and is now in her eighty-ninth year. Mrs. Holcomb belongs to a pioneer family, and in her early life was surrounded by influences which developed her character and fitted her to be the helpmate of such a man as her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb are the parents of six children, the youngest of whom, Moses, lives near his parents in Easton Township. Jesse S. and William E. reside in Montcalm County; Lucy is the wife of Theodore Harris, and lives in Stanton; Sanford lives in Mecosta County; Melissa M., wife of Grant Cunningham, has a home in Montcalm County. Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb are well informed, as they spend considerable time in reading and have always tried to keep up with the progress of events. Mr. Holcomb, after studying in the district schools of the Empire State, had the pleasure of attending

the Wyoming (N. Y.) Academy two years. He is a strong advocate of the public school system, and takes an interest in every movement which promises to elevate society. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Baptist, and his wife to the Christian Church.



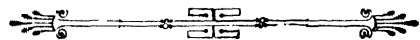
WILLIAM W. WILLIAMS. Among the reputable business houses of Ionia, Ionia County, is that of the gentleman above named, which in many respects might be taken as a model. The goods in which Mr. Williams deals, and many of which he manufactures, are harness and turf goods, robes, blankets, saddles, bridles, etc. His place is also headquarters for trunks and bags, and a well-selected assortment may always be found there. Every detail of the business is systematized and the proprietor of the establishment keeps an accurate record of every transaction, no matter how small it may be, and finds this thoroughness wonderfully to his advantage. He has been established in business for himself only a few years, but has already secured a good position among dealers and an excellent reputation among the people.

The parents of him of whom we write were Orren and Minerva (Peacock) Williams, both born in the State of New York. Mr. Williams was a shoemaker. He came to this State the year after its admission to the Union, and located at Dundee, but after a residence of three years removed to Battle Creek. He died in that city in August, 1877. His wife survived him more than a decade, breathing her last in Cairo, Ill., June 30, 1889. To the good couple there were born three children of whom our subject is the eldest. The others are Homer A., who is in the employ of the Chicago Varnish Company in the Queen City of the Lakes, and Charlotte, wife of Willard P. June, living in Cairo, Ill.

Our subject was born in Dundee, this State, April 20, 1846, but spent his early years in Battle Creek. He learned his trade—harness-making, of

Leonard Robinson and remained with that gentleman a year doing journey work. The ensuing two years he was in the employ of Hobbs & Bliss in Jackson and in 1866 he came to Ionia. Here he worked at his trade with different parties, being in the employ of Duncan Shepherd nine years prior to opening his own establishment in 1888. Mr. Williams frequently alludes to Mr. Shepherd, who was a grand man, and says that to him he owes much for his example and precepts. Indeed the integrity of character and devotion to principles of right which are possessed by Mr. Williams in an eminent degree are largely due to his contact with his former employer.

The home of Mr. Williams is presided over by a lady who became his wife May 10, 1869, prior to which date she was known as Miss Nettie M. Millard. She is a daughter of Peter Millard, was well reared and has been faithful to her obligations toward her family and friends. The congenial union has been blest by the birth of two sons—Carleton G. and Burtie L. The younger is at home and the elder is in Chicago, employed by George S. Harris & Sons, lithographers and printers. Mr. Williams is a Democrat but would disregard party affiliations to vote for an upright man in opposition to a rogue. He has served two terms as Alderman and in and out of office is public-spirited and progressive. He is strong in his friendships, honorable and straightforward in his dealings, and upright in his life. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Steward of the organization, in whose interests he is an untiring laborer.



FREDERICK BLUEMLE was a typical representative of the sturdy, manly and intelligent German-American citizens, who have become absorbed into our body politic, and have done much toward the building up of the world's greatest Republic. Mr. Bluemle was a man of a high order of intelligence, and sturdy integrity. These traits are characteristic of Germans and have made the Fatherland not only one of the strongest powers of Europe in a military sense, but

have placed it also in the front rank in the arts, sciences and discoveries for which Europe is so justly famous. Mr. Bluemle was a prominent farmer residing in Ionia County, with the growth and development of which he was closely identified.

Our subject was a native of Baden, Germany, and was born March 13, 1825. He was reared to manhood in his native country and received a fair education in his native tongue. After arriving in this country he acquired a fair knowledge of the English language and was able to transact business in this tongue. Early in the '50s he came to America on a sailing vessel, and after landing proceeded as far West as Indiana, where he worked for a time as a common farm laborer for \$6 a month and board.

Mr. Bluemle was married in December, 1853, to Rosina Meier, who was born in Baden, Germany, January 31, 1838. By this union eleven children have been born, who survive and are living in Michigan: Carrie, wife of Joseph Meier, residents of Fenwick; Mary, wife of Daniel Olmstead, now residing at Mt. Pleasant; Sophia, wife of Edward Callow, living at Ionia; Emma, wife of Rev. John Dietrich, of Orange Township, this county; Minnie, wife of Rev. Albert Swenk, now located at Petoskey, Mich., and a prominent minister of the Evangelical Church; Eugene, Frederick, Herman, Elzora, Pauline and Alvin are still at home, and the sons are farming his old homestead.

Mr. Bluemle came to Easton Township, Ionia County, in 1863, and settled on the farm where his widow and family now reside. He first purchased ninety acres of timber land and partially cleared twenty acres. On this land he built a house and improved a farm and made it what it is at the present time. There are now one hundred and ten acres in the homestead, and its fine improvements are due to the untiring exertions of Mr. Bluemle. In politics he generally aimed to vote for the best man irrespective of party, although his inclinations leaned rather toward the Republican party. A kind father, and a loving husband, his efforts were untiring for the good of his family, and he was highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was identified with the German

Evangelical Church and was well informed. He died January 25, 1889, and left an estate of over one hundred acres of land which he had accumulated by native energy and perseverance and also by the assistance of his wife.

In his death Ionia County has lost one of its best citizens and one who always favored improvements in the community. Mrs. Bluemle resides on the homestead with her family and is a valued and esteemed member of the German Evangelical Church. Mr. Bluemle was an obliging neighbor, accommodating to an unusual degree and his death was an irreparable loss which his family mourn.



LABAN A. SMITH. During the many years in which Mr. Smith has been a resident of Ionia County he has not only witnessed its progress from a comparatively unimportant portion of the State to its proud position as one of the foremost counties of Michigan, but he has aided in its development and his history is closely interwoven with that of the county. His life has been a busy one, but he now lives retired from active labor in Portland, where he removed in 1890. Realizing that the aim of his life is not merely to "kill time" he rightly valued every moment given him and has thus gained a reputation for promptness in originating plans and dispatch in executing them. He is of commanding presence and cultured mind. His desire for knowledge caused him to seek the companionship of good books, the perusal of which was a constant source of gaining information and storing an already well-balanced mind.

Mr. Smith is descended from renowned ancestors, whose genealogy traces back many generations. The first of the name whose record has been perpetuated was Thomas Smith, who lived in East Haven, at that time New Haven. In that town in 1662 he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Paterson, and among the children born to them was Samuel. The latter chose as his wife Anna Morris, and of their union, which was solemnized in 1708, a son was born whom they named Daniel. In 1749 this son married Hannah Atwater, and years afterward

their son Benjamin, married Lydia Gates. The children born to this couple were named Desire, Benjamin, Esther, Marvin, Daniel, Lydia and Evely. Marvin was twice married; he was united in the holy bonds of wedlock December 17, 1809, with Martha Otis, and they became the parents of three children, all of whom grew to maturity—Benjamin, Isaac O. and Elizabeth.

On the maternal side Laban Smith traces his ancestry back to John Thompson, who signed the Colony Constitution in June, 1639. The genealogy is briefly as follows: to him and his wife Eleanor, a son John was born, who married Priscilla Powell March 29, 1666. Among their children was one whom they named John and who first opened his eyes to the light August 6, 1667. To him and his wife Mercy, a son John was born October 11, 1692, and upon attaining years of maturity he married Sarah Pardee. Their son Timothy, who was born December 26, 1727, married Esther Perkins and they became the parents of a son John, who was born April 27, 1753. In 1783 this son was united in marriage with a widow, Dorcas Andrews, and of their nine children, the fourth was Lucy, the mother of Laban A. Smith.

The subject of this notice was born at Honeoye Falls, Monroe County, N. Y., November 14, 1828, and is the son of Marvin and Lucy (Thompson) Smith, natives of East Haven, Conn. The parental family is of Scotch descent. When Marvin Smith was twelve years old he came to New York with an uncle, Daniel Gates, and located in Bloomfield, Ontario County. His father had previously died and his mother, fearing that he might be tempted to go to sea, as some of his relatives who had been sea captains, were lost, willingly gave her consent that he could come as far West as the Empire State. At the time of his location in Bloomfield it was a wilderness and he experienced the usual hardships of pioneer life. He returned to the New England States for his second wife, with whom he was united in marriage April 3, 1826. Of the five children born to him and his wife three are living, viz: Daniel G., on the old homestead; Esther M. Burt, also in New York and our subject.

He of whom this sketch is a life record was

reared to farming pursuits and married Hannah Gillette, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Backus) Gillette, November 17, 1852. In 1857 he moved to Elkhart, Ind., where he followed farming seven years and in 1865 he removed to White Pigeon, Mich., where he lived a year. He then came to Portland in 1866, and has lived in this township ever since. He retired from active farm life in 1890, moving to the village of Portland. To himself and wife have been born eight children, of whom six are living: Leonard H., farming in Portland Township; Benjamin M., on the homestead; Harriet W., wife of Charles A. Frost, residing in Portland Township; William G., who is farming on the homestead; Daniel attending school in Portland; and George also at school.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Baptist Church and is a Republican in politics. His first vote was cast for Scott; later he voted for Fremont and his votes since have been cast in the Republican line. He was Supervisor in the township from 1875 to 1879, four terms in succession, for a number of years Highway Commissioner, and was County Superintendent of the poor from 1880 to 1890. Mr. Smith is a leader among men and an unswerving friend of right, relentless foe of wrong, decided and outspoken in his views and his nature knows no compromise. He has labored industriously and faithfully for the rewards he is now reaping. His home is one of culture and refinement, and one of its most noticeable features is a library of choice books, silent friends of himself and family.



JOHN W. PRESTEL is a prosperous citizen of Sheridan, Montcalm County, who has gained a large property by his own efforts, and by his enterprise in taking advantage of the opportunities which have been placed in his way. He was born in Ohio, on the 18th of December, 1838, and is the son of Wentlan and Catherine (Bodemiller) Prestel, both of German birth. He had the misfortune to lose both parents while still in his teens, and his education was cut short. When only eighteen years old he left home, and

going to Calhoun County, Mich., began work on a farm. A little later he engaged himself as a Steward on a steamboat on Lake Erie, and served in this capacity for three years.

Our subject then decided to learn the blacksmith's trade, and had been working in this way for one year, when his patriotic impulses led him to enlist September 10, 1861, in Battalion D, First Ohio Light Artillery. He entered the service at Cleveland, and was sent to Camp Denison, from whence he went to Covington, Ky. He served until September, 1865, under various leaders, but most of his term of service was under Gen. Sherman in his various campaigns. He was at Chickamauga, and was present when Johnston surrendered to Sherman. He also saw fight at Perryville, Atlanta, Shiloh, Franklin and Knoxville, and saw the destruction of Hood's army at Nashville.

At the close of the war he returned to Ohio and spent two years in finishing his apprenticeship in the blacksmith's trade. He then began this work for himself at Wasson, Ohio, and afterward resided in Williams County, Ohio, where he was married May 23, 1878, to Caroline Dell, at Edgerton.

Mr. and Mrs. Prestel are the happy parents of six sons, who are all residing with them at home: Frederick I., born March 22, 1868; Lawrence G., September 30, 1870; Charles A., January 30, 1873; John J., April 18, 1875; Harlon H., September 15, 1881; Bayard, December 6, 1883. Our subject remained in Ohio until 1870, when he removed to Muir, Ionia County, Mich., and took up mercantile pursuits. Two years later he and a Mr. Neff removed the stock to Sheridan, Mich., and began a general store. In 1874 he erected a nice store building, in which they continued business until 1882, when they bought a sawmill and then dissolve partnership. Mr. Prestel took all the property in Sheridan, while his partner took that which was situated in Day Township and elsewhere outside. He continued along for some time in the general store at Sheridan.

Mr. Prestel owns a large amount of real estate which may be listed as follows: Six houses and lots in Sheridan; a farm of two hundred and forty acres on the south side of the village; a large mill in St. Clair County; twelve hundred acres of fine

timber near Grand Traverse; and an interest in twelve thousand acres of choice timber land in Arkansas. He is fitting himself up a beautiful home in the suburbs of Sheridan. He says that he got his start for all this prosperity in the army at \$13 per month.



CHARLES L. BEMIS. All who study the early history of Michigan have noted with pride and pleasure that the first effort made by the pioneers after clearing a little spot upon which to erect a log cabin for a home, was to establish a district school. In many cases this was within log walls, and sometimes the first school was started in one end of the rude home which sheltered an earnest family of pioneers. The direct descendant of the log schoolhouse appears in these days as the white schoolhouse of the country districts and the splendidly appointed public schools of the towns and cities. The interest in education has never flagged but as opportunity has offered, the work has developed on broad and sure foundations.

The County Board of School Examiners is a notable feature of the county school organization, and the appointment of a first-class man to the position of Secretary of this board, is one of the strongest elements in the prosperity of any county. Ionia County is unusually favored in this respect. Prof. Charles L. Bemis, who holds this position is worthy of the highest praise. Under his direction the schools are taking a high rank, among other Michigan counties. He has excellent capability in the line of organization and he is a fluent and impressive speaker. His addresses made before gatherings of teachers and conventions of County Secretaries, have been listened to with great interest and are always requested for publication.

The subject of this sketch was born in Hampden County, Mass., March 30, 1850. His father was Marquis de LaFayette Bemis, a native of Massachusetts. His mother bore the maiden name of Eliza J. Stafford and was born in Vermont. The

father was a cabinet-maker and undertaker, but now lives on a farm in Ionia County. He came to Michigan in 1863, and located first in Easton Township. He had previously lived in Lorain County, Ohio, where the mother of our subject died in 1854. By her, two children were born to Mr. Bemis, William Wallace and our subject. The father of our subject married again, Helen C. Gunn being his second wife. Her two children are: Arthur L. and Edla R. Arthur is the editor of a paper in Carson City, and the daughter is the widow of William R. Henderson.

C. L. Bemis was brought up on a farm and when seventeen years of age worked out on a farm for \$16 a month, his first job being one of picking up stones. He attended school during the winter months and at the age of twenty years went to Lansing and hired out as a teamster for a year. While teaming he kept up his studies, keeping his text book of grammar upon the seat beside him, and snatching a few minutes for study whenever possible. The thoroughness and practicality of his plan of work was made apparent by his proficiency in this branch of study being so unusual as to afterward elicit high compliments from his professors. Working and studying, he managed to earn money and saving every cent possible he entered the Agricultural College at Lansing, from which he was graduated in the class of 1874. He never had a dollar's worth of aid extended to him in the pursuit of his education. He taught school for two years at Lyons, but although he had been a thorough student while in college he realized that he would be much benefited by a course of technical training. In pursuit of this he went to Ypsilanti and attended the Normal school for one year.

Prof. Bemis married Sarah Sprague, a daughter of Silas Sprague, August 7, 1878. That season he taught in Lyons but the next fall commenced teaching in Portland, where he continued eight years, and commenced teaching on the ninth, but resigned at the end of six weeks to accept an appointment as Secretary of the County Board of School Examiners. His appointment bore date October, 1887 and he still continues in that office. As a teacher he was eminently successful and in this

office he has proved efficient and capable. He is one of the Elders in the Church of Christ at Ionia, having united with that body in 1875. He is a staunch Republican in politics, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of the Masonic order, in which he is Junior Warden, and a member of the Knights of Pythias. To him and his wife have been born four children.—Bessie Ethel, Melvin S., Delia H. and Elden J.

Since the above sketch was written, Mr. Bemis, without any application on his part being made for the office was unanimously elected in May, 1891, by the School Board of Ionia as Superintendent of the city schools, and will enter upon his duties as such in September.



SAMUEL W. BADGER presents in his life an example of persevering industry crowned with success, that is encouraging to others who start as he did, with no capital. He came to Ionia County in 1842 and has been identified with its interests from that time until the present, and for a number of years was associated with other well-known men in pioneer labors in an undeveloped region. He is now pleasantly located on section 1, Easton Township, where he has a property of considerable value, so arranged and managed as to afford the family every comfort they can desire and enable provision to be made for future needs should they arise.

Mr. Badger was born in Warner, N. H., July 29, 1807, and comes of respectable families of the New England States. His father, Stephen Badger, was born in Massachusetts and was the son of Obadiah Badger, of Amesbury, Mass., who followed the sea for a livelihood prior to the War of the Revolution, and fought during the seven years' struggle for independence from the Mother Country. Stephen Badger was also a soldier in the Colonial army, having enlisted when but sixteen years old. He was present at the capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga, was also Lieutenant of a privateer, and having been captured by an English ship, was imprisoned at Dartmoor. After following the sea a number of

years he purchased land in the town of Warner, N. H., and became a farmer.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Sarah Sawyer, and was descended from the old Puritan stock, her ancestors by the name of Hopkins having crossed in the "Mayflower." Coming of such parentage our subject could scarcely fail to act well his part in life and display the sturdiness of mind and the uprightness of character which were among the traits of his ancestors. When he was perhaps ten years old his father not finding agriculture very remunerative exchanged his property for the Warner Mills, consisting of a grist-mill, carding and woolen mills. Our subject remained at home until he was about seventeen years old, passing his time in such an alternation between study, recreation and work suited to his years, as is generally the case in families of respectability.

At the above mentioned age Mr. Badger went to Massachusetts and for two years worked in the flannel mills of James Howarth at Andover. Not liking it there he went to Brighton and served an apprenticeship of two years with James Greenwood at the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he followed more or less from that time until 1842. At the expiration of his term of apprenticeship he started for what was then known as the far West, and arrived in Buffalo in August, 1828. Roads were rough even at that season of the year, and the trip by stage from Albany to Buffalo required five days. While there Mr. Badger worked at his trade as journeyman and cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson, by whose money policy the advancements and improvements of the country were seriously checked.

In the spring of 1834 Mr. Badger proceeded as far west as Toledo, Ohio, and commenced business for himself, erecting dwelling houses, also building bridges on the Palmyra & Jacksonburg Railroad, and working at Ft. Defiance on the Eric & Wabash Canal. Owing to the hard times and the state of the currency, he failed to receive his pay, as some took advantage of the bankrupt law and left him minus \$3,700. In 1838 he came to Lenawee County, this State, and in 1842 to Ionia County with his family. There was plenty of work to be done in this new country, but money was scarce, and few

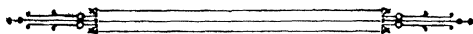
probably experienced the disadvantages that confronted Mr. Badger when he attempted to make a home for his family by building on and improving his wild land in Orange Township. The following circumstances will illustrate the discouragements he met with: In order to procure nails with which to fasten the roof to the walls of the house, he carried some maple sugar which he had made a distance of eight miles to Portland, selling it for five cents per pound and paying ten cents a pound for the nails.

In due time the house was completed, the farm cleared, and improvements added. Mr. Badger built the first sawmill in the vicinity and carried it on for a number of years. As one of the early pioneers of Orange Township he passed through the usual experiences of the frontiersman, from the time he made his home in a rude log cabin and began the development of his property to a period forty years later when it was a fair and fruitful estate. Notwithstanding the losses which Mr. Badger experienced, he has been able to pay his debts and owes no man anything.

Mr. Badger was married October 28, 1838, to Miss Mary J. Fleming, who was born in the North of Ireland, June 16, 1822. Her parents, William and Mary (Watt) Fleming, were born in the same section of country as herself but both were of Scotch descent. She was about ten years old when they crossed the Atlantic, taking passage on a sail vessel at Londonderry, and landing at Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of eight weeks, during which they experienced variable weather. The Flemings went at once to Vermont, where they made their home three years, then removed to Lenawee County, this State. They afterward came to Ionia County and established themselves in Easton Township, where both parents died. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Badger included five children: Ellen, wife of W. N. Reed, now living in Kansas; George W., in Oregon; Abigail, wife of Edmund Van Doran, in Ionia County; William and Charles, in Dakota.

It was in the spring of 1886 that Mr. and Mrs. Badger removed to their present home, where they are enjoying the many comforts they have earned by meritorious efforts for their own advancement

and the good of others. Both are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church and make of their religion a matter of everyday experience. They have been active members of society and have had a deep influence over those with whom they have come in contact. Mr. Badger is independent in politics, although he is inclined toward Republican principles.



NELSON E. SMITH, who operates a fruit farm on section 18, Ionia Township, Ionia County, bears out consistently in his life the reputation for industry, probity and devotion which is his ancestral inheritance, descended to him from his Puritan forefathers. The family dates back its history in America to the times of the "Mayflower." The father of our subject, Arthur Smith, was a native of Vermont, while his wife was Mary Smith, a native of New York, where they were married and resided throughout their lives, being pioneers of Cayuga County, where they opened up and improved a farm.

Arthur Smith had an interest in the invention of the first cast iron plow ever made. His wife died when about fifty years of age, but he survived to the good old age of eighty-two years. He was by preference and belief a Presbyterian, but as there was no church of that order in Cayuga County, he joined the Baptist Church and served it as a Deacon. He used occasionally to fill the vacant pulpits in Aurora. He was a Whig in politics. He was married three times, our subject's mother being his second wife.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born August 3, 1827, in Cayuga County, N. Y. When twenty years old he took a farm which he kept for seven years. Then disposing of it he started for Michigan where he arrived in 1854 and settled on the farm where he now lives. It was an unbroken forest and he did hard work, clearing it of trees, removing stumps and stones, building his residence and barns. He went into the fruit business at an early day. His apple orchard contains four hundred trees and his peach orchard the same,

while he has three acres devoted to grapes, and raises pears and a great deal of small fruit. He raises much fruit for the market and finds this business more lucrative than other farming. His harvest last fall amounted to twenty eight thousand pounds of grapes, five hundred bushels of apples, besides a good crop of pears and small fruit. With one exception he is the earliest pioneer in fruit growing in the county. He owns a farm of seventy acres in Easton Township. He is consistent in his principles of temperance and never turns his grapes into wine.

Mr. Smith's marriage in 1854 with Miss Martha M. Thacher, daughter of the Rev. Moses and Henrietta (Wilmarth) Thacher, united him with another family of honorable record in the annals of America. The father of his wife was a native of Princeton, Mass., born there November 14, 1795. The emigrant ancestor of the Thacher family, came from Salisbury, England, and became the first pastor of the old South Church, Boston, Mass. This Puritan pastor was the father of Rev. Peter Thacher who was again the father of another Rev. Peter, who was the grandfather of Mrs. Smith.

When Moses Thacher was eight years of age, his father removed to Northern Pennsylvania. There in the year 1808, during a revival, this youth became a subject of Divine grace and made a public profession of religion. Anxious to obtain a liberal education with a view to entering the ministry, he left his father's home in April, 1814, and with his pack upon his back traveled on foot three hundred miles to Providence, R. I., where he arrived with fifty cents in his pocket, as a fund toward his education. He obtained work at \$12 per month and entered upon a course of preparatory study, and in due time entered Brown University, where he was graduated in 1821. He studied Divinity with the Rev. Otis Thompson, at Rehoboth, R. I., and was licensed to preach the Gospel in 1827. On September, 22, the same year he was married, and the following year he was ordained and installed pastor of the Congregational Church at Wrentham, Mass., where he continued for several years.

In 1838 the young minister went to Pennsylvania, where he ministered to the Presbyterian Churches in the counties of Susquehanna and

Bradford, and in New York, in the counties of Delaware, Chenango, Cortland, Cayuga, Oneida and Franklin. Later he went with one of his sons to Illinois, and in September, 1868, he was bereaved by the loss of his wife. In August of the same year he suffered a sunstroke, from which he never recovered either mentally or physically. He spent the remainder of his days peacefully with a son in Illinois, and a daughter in Ionia, Mich. Forty-six years of his life were spent in the active ministry, and for many years he preached annually more than two hundred and fifty sermons.

While in Massachusetts Rev. Moses Thacher edited a religious and anti-Masonic paper, the *Boston Telegraph* and many of his writings have been published. He was once elected to the Senate of Massachusetts. He was an early anti-slavery man and was one of the twelve noble and notable men including William Lloyd Garrison and Oliver Johnson, who on January 6, 1832, in the African schoolroom on "Nigger Hill," in the City of Boston, formed the New England Anti Slavery society and affixed their names to the constitution of the society. The home of Father Thacher, as he was called, was one of the stations of the Underground Railroad.

Mrs. Nelson E. Smith was born at North Wrentham, Mass., July 6, 1829. She was a very superior woman, having a wonderful memory and having availed herself of good educational advantages. Her intelligence was graced by the beauties of a modest disposition, an amiable character, and Christian devotion. She was a notable Sunday-school teacher and for two years was President of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society here. Her death, October 9, 1889, was deeply mourned. In her memory the following verses were written:

"A precious one from us has gone;
A voice we loved is still;
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.

"God in his wisdom, has recalled
The boon his love had given;
And though the body slumbers here
The soul is safe in heaven."

Five children blessed the marriage of our subject and his wife, two who survive—Emmons,

who assists his father; and May H., who is a kindergarten teacher in connection with the public schools.

The three deceased—Walter Gorham and the twins, Effie and Lottie, were snatched from their parents in the short space of one week with that dread disease scarlet fever, Walter G. at the age of nearly eight years and the twins aged almost two years. Mr. Smith has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for forty years and a Ruling Elder in that organization for thirty-six years. He has done much active church work. His training and associations in connection with the anti-slavery interests, made him what was known as a "black Republican."



LEVI C. GOODWIN, a prominent citizen and venerable pioneer of section 7, Easton Township, Ionia County, is a native of Monroe County, N. Y., where he was born March 18, 1814. He is a son of Ezekiel and Hannah (Colby) Goodwin, who were natives of New Hampshire. His father served for a short time in the War of 1812, and was an early settler in Monroe County, N. Y. Of the five children of his parents, two now survive, our subject and Rozilla, now Mrs. Swift, a widow, residing in Ontario County, N. Y. The family is of English descent.

Our subject was brought up on the farm in his native State and was early trained in the practical work of agriculture. For a short time when a young man he boated on the Erie Canal. In the fall of 1850, he emigrated with his family to Ionia County, Mich., to which he had paid a visit some eight years previous. At that time it seemed to him too much of a wilderness for a family residence, but later, he found it more to his mind. His marriage in New York State in January, 1838 had united him with Ann Barlow, with whom he lived more than a half century in domestic happiness. To them were granted four children, Amanda, (deceased), Burdette, Marcellus, Frances, (Mrs. Peter M. Shaybaugh.)

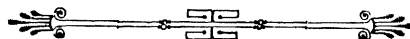
The family of our subject found their first home

in the southeastern part of Keene Township, and after a few years residence there came to Easton Township and settled on a farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres where they now reside. Eighty acres of this was then partially improved and a few rude buildings were already erected. He had much pioneer work to do, and has virtually made this splendid farm what it now is. His present fine residence was put up in 1881, and he has assisted his children in getting well started in life by giving each of them a farm of eighty acres. The golden wedding of this estimable and happy pair was celebrated in January, 1888, and March 28, 1889, Mrs. Goodwin was called to her heavenly home, leaving behind her a void which can never be filled. The whole community still mourn her loss and feel that a mother indeed has been taken from their midst.

Mr. Goodwin's son Burdette E., who was born December 3, 1843, in Monroe County, N. Y., and who resides on section 4, Easton Township, is a prominent citizen also of this county. With the exception of one and one-half years spent in the mercantile business in Belding, Mich., he has engaged all his life in agricultural pursuits. He was married October 18, 1866, to Olive Kellogg, a daughter of the Hon. Shiverick Kellogg, formerly representative from Ionia County in the State Legislature. She is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where she was born December 15, 1847. The Hon. Shiverick Kellogg came to Ionia County in 1849, and settled in Easton Township on the farm now owned by widow Cook. He afterward removed to what is now known all over that section as the old Kellogg farm in Easton Township. At that time there were no roads in that part of the county and here this progressive pioneer remained until 1881, when he died on November 14. For two terms he represented Ionia County in the Lower House of the State Legislature, where he was marked as a staunch Republican. He was a public-spirited man and an influential member of the Congregational Church. He was for some time Supervisor of Easton Township. His wife followed him to the better land, April 15, 1883, respected by all who knew her.

The subject of this sketch has seen the county grow up from an uncultivated to a finely culti-

vated and prosperous condition. His education in the rudiments of learning was gained in the early schools of his native State. He has ever sedulously improved what advantages were granted him and is fully abreast of the times in matters of intelligence. Being a staunch Democrat he has watched with interest the growth of the county and recollects when there were but seven Democrats in the township. He is a public-spirited citizen and delights to promote with his means and influence all movements for the upbuilding of the society. He is one of the successful pioneers of Ionia County, and now in his declining years he is enjoying the fruits of a life well spent surrounded by children and friends. His son-in-law, Peter M. Shaybaugh served two years as Treasurer of Easton Township and is one of the prominent young Democratic farmers of that township.



GEORGE MORRIS. The county seat of Ionia County is the home of this gentleman and his business is that of a stenographer, reporting that which transpires in the courtroom and in interviews between lawyer and client. He is of Irish descent and was born in New York, March 27, 1853. His parents were Arthur and Fannie (Fitzgerald) Morris, who removed from the Empire State to Canada, and later to Detroit, Mich. The father died at Detroit and the mother still resides there. Our subject attended the public schools and in the metropolis of the State continued his studies in the High School. He began his active life as a clerk and then took up shorthand under private instruction.

In 1877 Mr. Morris was employed in reporting legal matters and his entire experience as a stenographer has been in connection with law. In 1886 he was appointed by Gov. Alger stenographic reporter of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, at that time consisting of Ionia, Clinton and Montcalm Counties. He is still reporting in the Eighth District, now comprising the counties of Ionia and Montcalm. Mr. Morris is an expert, very accurate and rapid.

In 1877 Mr. Morris was married to Miss Hattie Kendall, a native of Pennsylvania, who possesses mental culture and an estimable character. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have one son—Fred, who was born in 1882. Both husband and wife belong to the Presbyterian Church, have good standing in the religious society, and are popular in the community. Politically he is a Republican.



JOSEPH LOTT. It being the purpose of the publishers of this ALBUM to present to its readers sketches of the lives of the prominent citizens of Ionia and Montcalm Counties, they would fail were they to omit that of Joseph Lott, who is one of the energetic and successful farmers of Keene Township. He was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, in 1839, and was bereft of his mother when but eighteen months old. His father, William Lott, was a native of New York and fought in the American army in the War of 1812. He went from his native State to Canada and thence came to Ionia County about 1838. He made his home in the woods on section 36, Keene Township, building a log cabin which he covered with dirt and which was one of the landmarks of that vicinity for several years. He endured the usual self-denials and privations of early settlers but lived to see a great improvement in the country. He passed away in 1878, leaving several children, the present survivors being Sarah B., Joseph, Leonard and Henry.

The gentleman whose name introduces these paragraphs arrived at man's estate in Keene Township, growing up amid scenes of pioneer life and obtaining a common-school education, mostly during the winter season, as the summers were spent in farm work. He has been an extensive reader and by this means has supplied the deficiencies in his early education. In 1864 he settled on section 28, where he has since made his home, pursuing an industrious and upright course in life. His well-developed farm consists of eighty acres on which he has made the usual improvements. He had practically no means with which to begin work

when he was ready to take a man's place in the world and it was by dint of industry, self-denial and the exercise of good judgment that he built up his comfortable home.

In his labors in life Mr. Lott has been ably seconded by the lady who became his wife November 24, 1861, whose maiden name was Susan A. Pinckney. She was born in Clinton County, this State, and is one of eight children, making up the family of Ira and Vienna Pinckney. Her surviving brothers and sisters are George, Henry, Caroline and Harriet. Her parents came to Keene Township about 1840 and her mother is still living here. To Mr. and Mrs. Lott there has come one daughter, Vienna, now the wife of William Rickett.

Mr. Lott is a believer in and supporter of the principles of Democracy and favors whatever will elevate the status of society and add to the prosperity of the section which he seen grow to a thriving and populous territory. Intelligent, law-abiding and agreeable, Mr. Lott is numbered among the highly-respected members of the community and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has business relations. His wife stands side by side with him in sharing the kindly feeling of their acquaintances.



hANNIBAL G. COBURN. Among the good hotels of Howard City, Montcalm County, is Coburn's Exchange, which was successfully conducted by our subject for fourteen years. During that time he became well-known to the traveling public and deservedly popular as a host. His hotel was a well-ordered, neatly-kept and finely-appointed house, with an unrivalled service and cuisine, leaving nothing to be desired by those who patronized it. This superior hostelry has recently been leased by Mr. Coburn to a son who was formerly one of the clerks and who is continuing its affairs on the liberal scale and sound basis to which it was brought by his father.

Mr. Coburn was born in Sumner, Me., June 3, 1828, and in the same State his parents, Peter and Polly (Howe) Coburn opened their eyes to the light. The Coburns came originally from Scot-

land, three of the name, with three Varnums, crossing the ocean together in early Colonial days. The parental family comprised six children and our subject is the third born. The other survivors are Henry C., now living in Dakota; Benjamin F., an hotelkeeper in South Molunkus, Me.; Freeland J., a resident of Mattawamkeag, Me.; Olive, wife of James Warren, living in Bowlder, Col. The other member of the family, Granville, died in Aroostook County, Me.

The father of Hannibal G. Coburn was a farmer and our subject was reared to the same pursuit. His opportunities for acquiring a thorough education were somewhat limited but he attended Lees Normal Academy two terms. March 23, 1851, he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Enoch Stone, and at once leased the Mansion House, in Lincoln, Me., and entered upon a long career as an hotelkeeper. After being in the business about a twelvemonth, he abandoned it for a time and gave his attention to farming and carrying on a livery and express business. In 1854 he bought the Lincoln House, which he carried on until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he was drafted and exempted from service.

Mr. Coburn at once went to work to aid in raising the Seventh Maine Infantry, expecting to become its sutler, but instead he was appointed sutler of the Twentieth, which was commanded by Col. Ames. He accompanied the troops to Washington and after camping for a time at Arlington Heights, followed their destinies three and a half years, when he sold out to A. K. Matthews and returned to his native State. During his connection with the Twentieth his stores were never raided by the boys, as they held him in high esteem on account of his kind treatment and the attention he paid to their sick.

Soon after his return home Mr. Coburn was telegraphed to return to Washington with all haste, bringing all the money he could command, as there was a good thing in store for him. He took a private conveyance to Bangor and thence went on to Washington, taking with him between \$8,000 and \$9,000. He bought a half interest in a ship load of sutler's supplies ready for shipment to City Point, and took a pass made out for Matthews,

while Matthews took one made out for Knox. At City Point he was arrested, placed in what was called the "bull pen," and the next day taken back to Washington, where he was tried before Judge Doubleday. He was fined \$200 and committed to any prison he might select until it was paid, which was done in less than an hour. In the meantime a guard had been placed over the goods, and as soon as it was learned that everything was straight with the exception of the attempt to reach the front under a false pass, the supplies were sold out to the credit of Coburn & Matthews, although they did not realize as much as they would had they managed for themselves.

For six months longer Mr. Coburn continued in the sutler's business and when ordered out collected \$1,500 of the paymaster. He was appointed Custom House officer at Lincoln, Me., and held the position three years. As the Government gave one-half to the Collector on all seizures and these more than met the expenses, it lost nothing. Mr. Coburn was appointed United States Marshal in 1868, but held the position only a few months and then engaged in the sale of farm implements. In that branch of trade he continued until May, 1873, when he came to Michigan and before the year had closed had bought the hotel that he has carried on most of the time since. Prior to September, 1890 he had it in charge except for three years, when it was leased. He has also been interested in the lumber business to some extent, but not with any marked success.

Mr. and Mrs. Coburn have six children, of whom we note the following: Flora E. lives in Detroit and is the wife of T. H. Anderson, a conductor on the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad; Mary I. is the wife of M. H. Stetson, who keeps a hotel and livery in Howard City; Fred W. is an hotelkeeper in Bangor, Me., being proprietor of the Penobscot Exchange; Hart D. is now carrying on Coburn's Exchange in Howard City; Lilley is the wife of Gain Robinson, a lumber dealer in Springfield, Mass.; Hannibal G., Jr., is a young lawyer who was graduated from the law department of the State University in Ann Arbor and is located at West Superior, Wis.

The political faith of Mr. Coburn is pronounced

and he always bears an active part in campaign work, aiding the Democratic party to power. He was Postmaster of Howard City under President Cleveland. He has been a member of the Council two terms and was elected President of the Village Board in 1890. He has also been a school officer. He is a charter member of Howard City Lodge, F. & A. M. In religious sentiment he is an infidel and has entertained those views for over forty years.



THOMAS R. ALLEN, M. D. By nature and education Dr. Allen has been well qualified for his professional work, his marked ability is recognized throughout the city of Ionia and his reputation extends over a wide circuit of country. He was born in Franklin County, N. Y., September 13, 1841, but accompanied his parents to Canada when about seven years old. His father, John Allen, a native of New York, was a farmer and drover, and the son learned the details of farming and the stock business when quite young.

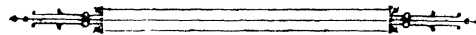
The mother of our subject was Lucinda (Russell) Allen, who was born in Vermont and died in Huron County, this State, in August, 1890. The parental family included Delana, widow of Nelson Tibbits; Azuban, now deceased, who married Josiah Donaldson; Maroah, wife of Aaron Steel, living in Huron County; Huldah, formerly wife of E. Bullard and now deceased; Thomas R., of this notice; George, deceased; Eliza J., wife of Mitchell Dibb, of Huron County; and Lucetta, wife of Louis Cooper, living in Canada.

The fundamental education of Dr. Allen was obtained in the common schools and in the grammar school at London, Ontario. Having determined to adopt the medical profession as his work in life he entered the Homœopathic College at Cleveland, from which he was graduated in 1865. Not content with this preparation he went to New York City and entered upon a supplemental course, but was obliged to abandon it on account of being taken sick. When his health was sufficiently re-

stored to enable him to begin practice, he opened an office in Detroit where he carried on his professional work three years. Again illness interfered with his plans and for two years he was not able to carry on his work. He came to Ionia June 16, 1871, and as soon as his health would permit he began professional work here and has continued it to the present time.

Dr. Allen inherits a taste for fine stock and takes especial pride in horses, of which he has some excellent specimens. He may frequently be seen behind a good trotter and driving affords him needed recreation. He is of a social disposition and greatly enjoys the good comradeship found in lodges of the Masonic order, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Foresters, with each of which he is identified. He was a member of the Pension Board during the administration of President Arthur, but was set aside by Cleveland; he was re-appointed by Harrison and is still serving. In politics he is an ardent Republican. Notwithstanding the demands upon his time, he manages to keep abreast of his fellow-physicians, as he is devoted to his profession and ambitious to succeed in the highest sense.

Dr. Allen was married September 20, 1870, to Miss Elizabeth Finch, a native of Canada, who shared his fortunes only a decade. She died in 1880 leaving one daughter, Mamie. After having lived a widower until March 12, 1888, the Doctor contracted a second matrimonial alliance, bringing to his home as his bride Mrs. Henrietta Wilson, formerly of England.



STEPHEN J. WILBUR, a prominent and highly reputed resident of Keene Township, Ionia County, is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he was born May 12, 1828. His parents, Sylvanus and Sabra (Blodgett) Wilbur, were both natives of Vermont. His father was born on an island in Lake Champlain, six miles from Plattsburg, N. Y., and when a boy witnessed the battle at that point. Our subject was reared to manhood in his native county

and has been a life-long farmer. He received a rudimentary education in the early schools of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where his father had settled when that was a wilderness. The school building was of logs and had a fireplace in one end and a door in the other. The educational advantages were extremely scanty, but owing to a life-long habit of reading he has acquired a high degree of intelligence. He remembers vividly the pioneer scenes of his early life, especially an incident when one day a wolf came up to his father's house, seized a lamb and rushed with it into the woods.

Mr. Wilbur's first marriage occurred in 1850, August 25, when he was united with Harriet Cross, who bore him one daughter—Harriet, wife of Andrew Town, of Orleans Township, this county. In the spring of 1851 he emigrated with his wife to Ottawa County, Mich., and resided about ten miles from Grand Rapids until the fall of 1854, when he came to Ionia County. He finally located on his present farm in Keene Township in 1856. His wife died June 11, 1852.

The second Mrs. Wilbur was Harriet E., daughter of George W. D. and Hannah (Veile) Gernsey. This lady was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., April 20, 1838. Her father was a native of New York State. One of her great-grandfathers was a Revolutionary soldier and her father's mother was within four miles of the Wyoming Massacre and could see the light of the burning buildings as they were set on fire by the Indians, and could hear the screams of some of the unfortunates as they were massacred by the savages.

When four years old Mrs. Wilbur emigrated with her parents to Oakland County, Mich. After residing there two years the family emigrated to Ionia County and became early settlers in Easton Township in 1846. Six children blessed the second marriage of our subject, three of whom are living—DeWitt; Ann, wife of Edwin Baldwin, and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur settled in the woods and had to cut down trees to make a road to their home and to clear a place for erecting a small log shanty. In this humble home, measuring 14x26 feet, they lived for years, and later on built a better house. He purchased eighty acres of land

and has improved the farm and made it what it is to-day. The ancestors of our subject were Quakers. Mrs. Wilbur is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Wilbur is a Prohibitionist in politics. This worthy couple have always led consistent and honorable lives, and it would not be too much to say that their noble example is well worthy of the imitation and emulation of future generations. Their hospitality is known throughout the county. Mr. Wilbur has always borne a spotless reputation for sterling integrity. He is well informed on general topics and is public spirited and liberal toward enterprises having for their object the welfare of society. Long after he and his devoted wife shall have been called to "that bourne from which no traveler returns" will their memory be green in the hearts of those who love and honor them.



WALLACE W. BEMIS, B. S. When one has had the advantages of the common schools and colleges and also the benefits resulting from a portion of his life being spent in halls of learning acquiring useful knowledge, we naturally expect something more than ordinary from such a person. Prof. Wallace Bemis does not disappoint us in this expectation, for he is unusually prominent as a literary man and has occupied high positions in the schools of Ionia County. He is a native of Hampden County, Mass., and was born February 20, 1852. He is the second son of M. D. L. and Eliza Bemis, natives of New England, and when a mere child accompanied his parents to Lorain County, Ohio, and there lost his mother by death. The family remained in that place until 1863 and afterward emigrated to Ionia County, Mich., where they settled on section 22, Easton Township. There the father still resides and is now (1891) in his sixty-eighth year.

Prof. Wallace Bemis began his school days in Elyria, Ohio, attending school in that place from his sixth to his eleventh year. He subsequently attended a public school of Easton Township, and

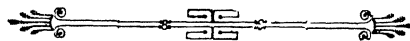
afterward attended for a time the Ionia High School. In 1873 he entered the Michigan State Agricultural College at Lansing and taking the full course was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science. His commencement day occurred in November, 1876. Previous to this he had taught school some four months before he entered the agricultural college. He has been engaged in teaching school for fifteen winters, almost successively, and has been pre-eminently successful in this line of work.

Prof. Bemis was united in marriage October 9, 1878, with Luella Curtis. The bride was born in Branch County, Mich., and is a daughter of Joseph and Susan Curtis, who are residing in Easton Township. The parents of Mrs. Bemis were early settlers of this part of the country. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bemis four children have been born: Lynn, March 8, 1883; Edith L., September 28, 1884; Ernest, January 23, 1886, and Ray, November 19, 1888.

The subject of this sketch located in 1885 at his present home. He has chosen the Republican party for his own and is a progressive man in all his ideas. He and his wife are identified with the Christian Church of Ionia and are active and consistent members. He has served as Township Superintendent of Schools one year each in the townships of Ionia and Easton, is identified with the Grange society, and is now serving as Treasurer of the Banner Grange, No. 640, in Orleans Township. As an educator Prof. Bemis has been especially successful in that most difficult feat for many teachers to accomplish—the grading of rural district schools, and was among the first to experiment in that line in Ionia County.

The writer finds Prof. Bemis to be a thoroughly educated gentleman and well deserving the degree of Bachelor of Science which his Alma Mater has conferred upon him. As an instructor his increasing and unwearied labor is the key to his great success. Courteous to a marked degree he commands the confidence of all his acquaintances. He and his family reside near Stanton Junction in Easton Township where during a portion of the year he is successfully engaged in conducting a fruit farm, for the cultivation of which his term of

school spent in the agricultural college has fitted him. Prof. Bemis is a brother of the present able Superintendent of Public Instruction of Ionia County.



ASHER C. SHAW owns and occupies one of the productive farms of Ionia County, the tract consisting of one hundred and seventy-five acres on section 4, Otisco Township. Mr. Shaw was born in Washtenaw County, to which his father removed from the Empire State about 1830. That gentleman, John Shaw, was a native of England and had emigrated to New York when quite young. He was engaged in farming in that State and after coming to Michigan he continued the same occupation. In 1838 he came to Ionia County and purchased three hundred acres of Government land, on a part of which his son now lives. This was his final home and here he died in 1880. He had married in Washtenaw County Miss Jane Belding, daughter of Asher Belding, who was a native of Massachusetts. The union was blest by the birth of four children—William and Sylvia, twins, and two sons who were christened by the same name, the first having died in infancy. William is living in Minnesota. Mr. John Shaw was for many years a Deacon in the Baptist Church. His father, for whom he was named spent the last years of his life in Washtenaw County, this State.

Asher Shaw remained with his parents until he was of age and then took up the occupation of farming for himself on a part of the homestead. In 1887 he left the farm and went to Missouri where he spent a year, and then returning to this State he made his home in Lansing until January, 1890. At that time he returned to his farm and is again giving his attention to its management and cultivation. He has an estate that is sufficiently productive to afford him all the comforts of life and allow him to make provision for his future needs should he live to old age.

The date of the marriage of Asher C. Shaw and Elizabeth Wright was May 3, 1863. The bride

was the third child of Abner and Ruth (Fallman) Wright, the others being Charles C., John A., George A., Geary P. and Ruth A. Mr. and Mrs. Wright were born in New York, whence they came to this State in 1843. Mr. Wright is still living but his wife died in 1861. He is a farmer and cooper, and is well known in Otisco Township, which has been his home so many years. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw are the parents of one son, Alvin W., who was born March 5, 1864.

Mr. Shaw has a social nature, as is shown in his affiliation with some of the well known orders. He is a Master Mason, belonging to Belding Lodge, No. 355, and is identified with Belding Lodge, No. 32, A. O. U. W. His political affiliation is with the Democrats and he is quite sure to be seen depositing a straight ticket when the ballot box is open.



BENJAMIN HARTER. One by one the early settlers of Ionia County are passing away, leaving to posterity the lesson of their sturdy manliness, their courageous pursuit of life's duties, and their hopefulness under trying circumstances. Among those who were long and favorably known in and near the county seat, and indeed over a wide circuit of territory hereabouts, may be numbered the gentleman with whose cognomen we introduce these paragraphs. As farmer and merchant he was equally energetic, straightforward and progressive in his ideas, and all his dealings were honest and business-like. The guerdon of financial prosperity was won by the exercise of these qualities combined with frugality and tact in investing his means, and to his family he left a good property, including a beautiful home in which his widow still resides.

The Harters were originally from Germany, and the grandfather of our subject was one of eight brothers who settled in Herkimer County, N. Y. There Michael Harter, father of Benjamin, was born and reared, and there he married Abigail Harter. To them came thirteen children, of whom Benjamin was the third. The date of his birth was April 18, 1813, and amid the usual surroundings

of farm life he grew toward manhood, attending the common school, even at that time quite good in Herkimer County, and learning every particular of his father's vocation. He aided in the farm work until he was fifteen years old, when he became clerk in a grocery store at Utica a few months. He was employed in a dry-goods store at Little Falls for several years, having the privilege of attending school during the winter months. His wages were given to his father until he was of age, when the accumulation from three years of his labors enabled him to come to Michigan.

The removal of Mr. Harter to this State took place in 1839, and four miles from Ionia he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, in the cultivation of which he laid the foundation of a competency. The country was sparsely settled when he located here and much of the territory was an unbroken wilderness, still the haunt of timorous animals and savage beasts, but no discouraging appearances were able to undermine the determination of Mr. Harter to win fortune's favors. He saw in the lands about him the elements of agricultural growth, and was assured in his own mind that the climate and other physical advantages of the region would in time make it the home of a prosperous people; and he lived to see his prophecy fulfilled and wealth and high civilization abounding in the once wild waste.

Mr. Harter remained on his farm until 1845, when he became clerk for James M. Kidd, a relation he sustained two years, after which he established himself in the dry-goods business. For twenty years he carried on a trade that grew to such proportions as to demand many hands to carry it on and an active brain during long hours of thought to manage its details and plan for its furtherance. Having won a competence Mr. Harter retired from the arduous pursuit in which he was engaged and gave his attention solely to looking after his investments, his lands and stocks, and the duties of a Director in the First National Bank of Ionia. He built a fine residence, and furnished it in a manner befitting his abundant means and the tastes of the occupants, and under its roof he and his family enjoyed the society of their numerous friends and the recreations open to people of wealth.

In politics Mr. Harter was a staunch Republican; in disposition he was social and frank, and in character above reproach. He was a member of the Church of Christ, a faithful and earnest worker and a liberal giver to further the cause of Christianity, and for a number of years he was a Deacon. His death occurred November 14, 1890.

“Tossed no more on life’s rough billow,
He has crossed the chilling stream,
He has safely passed death’s Jordan,
For a land of living green.

“Tossed no more on life’s rough billow,
He has found his clay-cold bed,
He from it shall rise immortal,
As his glorious Leader did.

“Tossed no more on life’s rough billow,
Sorrows, pains and anguish past,
Oh, the pain, the bliss of dying,
Finding rest in heaven at last.”

The companion of Mr. Harter in his toils and pleasures, the one in whom he found his chief sympathizer and most encouraging counselor, was known in former years as Miss Sarah Yates, and was a native of Skaneateles, N. Y. She is a daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Lockwood) Yates, and was united in marriage to Mr. Harter August 9, 1841. The union was blessed by the birth of four children but two only are now living—Mrs. L. B. Avery, of Ionia, and Mrs. U. B. Rogers, of Grand Rapids. Mrs. Harter is a fervent Christian who delights in doing good and in dispensing hospitality, and is a willing worker in all charitable causes. She is the fortunate possessor of excellent tastes and sound judgment, and is a delightful companion, as numerous friends are ready to testify.



HARVEY HARTER. Among the well remembered citizens of Ionia County the gentleman above-named deserves mention. He came hither in 1849 and for several years was engaged in the sale of merchandise in the county seat and he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank there. He was a

heavy stockholder in that institution and for twelve years was its Assistant Cashier. After giving up the dry-goods business he devoted much time to the details of his extensive farming operations, having invested his previous gains chiefly in farm lands and having a landed estate of six hundred acres. Official station had no charms for him, although he was thought by his fellow-citizens to be peculiarly adapted to serve them. His business absorbed his time and his family life made his chief enjoyment.

Mr. Harter was the seventh in a family of thirteen children born to Michael and Abigail Harter. His parents were old settlers in the Mohawk Valley, and in fact the Harters located there during the Revolution. The natal day of Mr. Harter was November 22, 1821, and his birthplace Herkimer County. He worked upon the old homestead and attended school until he was sixteen years old, and upon completing his studies entered at once upon a business career as clerk in a store at Little Falls. After three years spent in that capacity he accepted the stewardship of a packet plying on the canal between Schenectady, Utica and Rochester. After two years as Steward he became Captain, a position he held five years. During the winter months, when navigation was closed he was employed as a clerk or telegraph operator.

Through his brother Benjamin, who had made some investments in this State for him, Mr. Harter was led to come hither and immediately after his arrival in Ionia the firm of Harter Bros., opened a store on Main street. They carried it on successfully seven years and at the same time were engaged in the manufacture of saleratus and potash, which found a ready market in Chicago. As a business man our subject was energetic and keen and in making investments he showed prudence and forethought. When called hence he left a fine property, and the widow still occupies the delightful old homestead, surrounded by every comfort heart can wish. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth M. Babcock and entered upon the duties of married life October 29, 1850.

The father of Mrs. Harter was William Babcock, who came to Ionia County in 1836, and with Philo T. Bates, located two thousand acres of land two

and a half miles west of Ionia. The next year he brought his family and they were nine days in making the distance from Detroit to Ionia. Mrs. Harter's reminiscences of this trip are very interesting. One Sunday they had to be pulled through a swamp. The first Indians the family saw were after they had crossed this swamp, and an older sister came near fainting at the sight as the savages were skinning a deer, which the girls thought to be a person. The sons in the Babcock family drove through Canada bringing the stock with them. George, the eldest, was a prominent lawyer in Buffalo, N. Y., and gained his education by personal effort, studying while caring for stock and attending to other farm duties. This son did not come to Michigan with the family, but was one of five who remained in the East.

The first winter in Michigan was a hard one, by reason of sickness and the fact that all their supplies except those coming in the one wagon were frozen in at Grand Haven. Their oxen suffered for lack of proper shelter and sufficient food, and the six cows died. Mr. Babcock, who was a man of great activity and perseverance, lived to see the country prosperous, giving to each of his sons a farm and leaving a handsome property. He died December 7, 1871, at the age of eighty-nine years. His wife, formerly Julia Reed, died in April, 1845. Among the old settlers she is well remembered, and gratefully too, for her care of the sick. The first Fourth of July celebration in Ionia County was held on the Babcock farm soon after the arrival of the family, in 1837.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Babcock numbered fifteen but ten only came to Michigan. One of these, a married daughter, located in Washtenaw County. Five of the family are still living, Dolly, widow of G. C. Overhiser, living in Greenville; Herman, whose home is near Petoskey; Olivia, widow of Edward O. Clark, of Lansing; Marcus, who resides in Dakota; and Mrs. Harter. The last named bore her husband eight children, of whom the deceased are: Fanny, Carrie, Lula and Benjamin. The living are William, Frank, Julia and Fred. William is Cashier of the First National Bank in Ionia; having been employed in the bank since 1873. Frank is a grocery dealer and Fred is

living in Omaha, Neb.; Julia, is the wife of C. H. Gillett, of Ionia. The death of Mr. Harvey Harter occurred October 20, 1890. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harter belonged to the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was a Republican.

Frank H. Harter, second child of Harvey and Elizabeth Harter, was born in Ionia, November 29, 1852. He was graduated from the High School of the town, after which he began clerking for Hall Bros., and followed this by becoming an employe of Cooper & Thayer, dry goods dealers. In 1880 he entered into the grocery business for himself, the firm being Harter Bros. After a time Fred M. removed to Omaha, leaving W. B. and Frank to carry on the business. The firm became Harter & Co., on New Year's day, 1882. Mr. Harter belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees, is a Republican in politics, and a Presbyterian in religion. He was married January 25, 1882, to Alice, daughter of Dr. Hammond.



CAPT. ROBERT W. HOY was in his youth one of those courageous boys who being deprived of parental care undertook the support and protection of the family at an age when they should have been attending school. This resident of Bushnell Township, Montcalm County, Mich., was born at Canton, Stark County, Ohio, February 26, 1824. He was the youngest son of Robert and Alice (Tarlton) Hoy, both former residents of Hagerstown, Md.. His father was both a teacher and an agriculturist and our subject's early life was spent on a farm. His early advantages for education were good and had his father lived he would have pursued his studies in the higher grades.

When Robert was five years old the family removed from Stark County, Ohio, to Richland County and settled on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Plymouth Township, and in 1834, when Robert was only ten years old his father died leaving him the care of the farm together with the care and support of an aged mother and two sis-

ters. He continued on the farm until 1852, but in the meantime married Elizabeth Wilson, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Wilson, of Plymouth, Richland County, Ohio, January 30, 1844. In 1852 Mr. Hoy disposed of the old farm and became a resident of Lisbon, Noble County, Ind., where for three years he engaged in mercantile pursuits and also filled the position of Justice of the Peace and Postmaster.

In consequence of failing health and the death of his wife which occurred on May 4, 1857, he disposed of his mercantile interests and devoted his time to official business and to the care of his family, which consisted of Elizabeth A., born December 29, 1845; George W., October 29, 1847; John Wilson, January 29, 1850; Robert F. P., January 2, 1853; Eliza Jane, February 5, 1855 and Walter L. F., April 21, 1857.

On the 22d of April, 1858, Mr. Hoy again entered the relations of marriage with Jane R. Wilson, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Wilson, of Plymouth, Ohio, and to them was born one daughter, Emma Electa, February 2, 1859. Mr. Hoy was again called on to mourn the loss of his companion, she dying at Lisbon, Ind., September 6, 1860. Mr. Hoy, after making suitable arrangements for the care of his family of little children, which he kept together until early in the war, felt called upon to respond to the call in defense of the old flag. He organized a company and was chosen as its Captain which position he held until the close of the war, refusing promotion, preferring to remain with his men that he had enlisted and associated with, many of them companions and neighbors in his younger days. His company was lettered Company I, One hundred and Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry, and was attached to the Twenty-Third Army Corps. During their service they participated in the battles of Resaca, then Kenesaw Mountain, Decatur, Ga., Columbia, Tenn., Atlanta, Ga., Lovejoy Station, Ga., Columbia, Tenn., November 5, Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864 and Nashville, Tenn., December 15-16, 1864. After Hood's defeat at Nashville, the Twenty-Third and a part of the Fourth Army Corps under Gen. Thomas were transferred to Washington, D. C., and from there went to Ft. Fisher and Ft. Anderson,

and from there went to Beaufort, Newbern and Goldsborough, N. C., where they met Gen. Sherman. Previous to reaching Goldsborough and while at Kingston, N. C., the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth participated in their last fight. Gen. Lee soon afterward surrendered his army and the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth, with other regiments, was ordered to Charlotte, N. C., for duty, and there remained until August 29, 1865, when they were mustered out.

At the close of the war the subject of this sketch returned to Lisbon, Ind., and on the 26th of October, 1865, was again united in marriage with Mary L. Grace, daughter of Bennett and Mary Grace, of Millbrook, Mercer County, Pa., and again resumed house keeping and the care of his children. In November, 1866, Mr. Hoy disposed of his property and moved to Wood Corners, Ionia County, Mich., and there remained until July 13, 1867, when he purchased the home where he now resides, in Bushnell, Montcalm County, Mich. But fate decreed that his sorrow and afflictions were not to end for on the 6th of September, 1867, he was called to mourn the loss of his third companion, but by the assistance of his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, he was enabled to continue in the care and society of his children. Feeling the necessity of more competent assistance than he was able to devote to the care of his children he was again married to Mrs. Sarah A. Lang, daughter of Bennett and Mary Grace of Millbrook, Pa. This union added four more daughters to Mr. Hoy's family, the children of his wife by a former marriage—Gertrude E., Emily M. Mary A., and Sarah A. Lang.

In 1869 Mr. Hoy was elected Justice of the Peace which office he has held continuously to the present time, and also the office of Supervisor of his township during his residence there of seventeen years. While residing in Ohio he was in the Sheriff's office four years, and in 1874 he took an active part in the organization of the Grange and was Secretary in the Bushnell Grange for ten years. In politics Mr. Hoy is a Democrat, but although his township is strongly Republican, giving from fifty to seventy-five Republican majority, yet they have never succeeded in defeating him for any office. Mr.

Hoy's children are all living, excepting George W., who died October 29, 1847, and are all married and happily settled around him, together with the children of his present wife by her former husband.



WILLIAM STEELE. From the New England States many men have come to swell the population of Ionia County, and to their sturdy habits and enterprising spirit is due to a considerable extent her present condition and standing among the counties of the State. One of the New England farmers who is carrying on his work in Lyons Township, is Mr. Steele, whose beautiful farm consists of one hundred and twenty-five acres on section 21. When he took possession of the place there was but forty acres broken and he has made the improvements which it now bears. Everything about the estate stamps it as the home of a man of industrious habits, good judgment and orderly ways, and every passing stranger looks upon it with admiration. The farm house is a two-story dwelling of good architectural design in a setting of trees and fertile fields that add to its beauty.

Mr. Steele was born in the Green Mountain State September 26, 1826, and is the eighth child born to Osgood and Eunice (Nelson) Steele. Both parents were born in the Green Mountain State and there their wedded life began. After some years Mr. Steele laid aside the implements of his trade—that of a stonemason, and bought a farm in Orleans County, N. Y., upon which he lived until 1841. He then came to this State, established his home in Jackson County and spent the rest of his years on a farm there. He and his wife had twelve children—four daughters and eight sons.

Our subject was a child four years old when he accompanied his parents to New York, in which State he grew to manhood. Prior to his fifteenth year he pursued the usual course of study, alternating his attendance at school with various home duties suited to his years and strength. He then took up the battle of life for himself and until he was twenty-four years old, he worked by the month as a farm hand. He then learned the mason's trade,

at which he was employed in New York until 1863, when he came West and located where he now lives.

The marriage of Mr. Steele and Miss Polly Woods was solemnized at the bride's home in Orleans County, N. Y., May 28, 1848. She was born in that county, June 30, 1828, and was the third of the eight children making up the family of Jephtha and Eliza (Beckman) Woods. Her father was born in New York and her mother in Vermont. The former breathed his last in his native State, but the latter departed this life at Muir, this State. Mr. and Mrs. Steele have had two sons—William Fred, who died in 1884, and Frank W., who married Elva Lorless, a native of Canada, and lives at home with his parents.

Although neither had the opportunity for a liberal education in youth, Mr. and Mrs. Steele take an interest in that which is improving to the mind and are well versed in topics of general interest. They believe in using the means which they have, for reasonable pleasures and benefits, and they have made several trips to California, one in December, 1880, when they visited San Francisco, Sacramento and other well-known cities. They have many pleasant recollections of their journeys and of the acquaintances they made, and their memories are filled with pictures of beautiful scenery. Mr. Steele was at one time a Democrat, but now votes for the best man regardless of political affiliation.



NORMAN J. DOLPH, manager of the shingle mills at Gladwin, Mich., was born at Cherry Valley, Ohio, November 26, 1865. He is a son of L. H. and Sarah (Akins) Dolph, and came with them when three years old to Montcalm County. Here he attended the Pierson schools, and later pursued his studies in the Cedar Lake and Stanton High Schools. He had to suspend his studies on account of ill-health, and as he had from a child displayed a natural love for mechanics he soon entered into lumber manufacturing. He also took charge of his father's store at Dolph's Mills.

In 1886 this young man, being then only twenty-one years old, obtained of his father the use for a year of his mills, and in that one year he made \$2,000. He then entered into a partnership with Hyde Bros. He bought one of his father's mills and removed it to Gladwin. Here he bought a tract of land and engaged in the manufacture of shingles and lumber under the firm name of N. J. Dolph & Co. He had the mill in nice running order and three months later sold his share for \$5,000 to F. Neff, of McBride. He now became the manager of the establishment, which place he still holds at a salary of \$1,200. He has been a successful dealer in pine lands and real estate, and is a member of a syndicate that owns some twenty-four hundred acres of pine land north of Duluth, Minn. He intends moving there this spring to take charge of the manufacture of lumber and shingles.

In August, 1888, the subject of this brief sketch was married at McBride to Luella Neff, daughter of Louis and Lena Neff, of McBride. She is a native of Ionia County. Mr. Dolph has been Township Treasurer of Gladwin for two terms. He is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Gladwin, and like all his family is a staunch Republican.



THOMAS J. BANDFIELD. Untiring energy and great executive ability must necessarily be the endowments of one who would successfully manage a large business, and we find these are the qualifications of Mr. Bandfield, who is a manufacturer residing in Portland, Ionia County. Success seems to mark his every effort and from the gulf to the seas, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, his wares may be found. His samples may be seen at No. 302-304 Wabash Avenue, and he also has men in the field representing him. He makes a specialty of the manufacture of library and extension tables, which are sent in car-load lots all over the United States.

Mr. Bandfield is of English descent, and traces

his ancestry back to substantial and aristocratic families. He was born in Somerset, England, November 30, 1845, and is the son of Charles and Jane (Rugg) Bandfield, natives of England. Charles Bandfield was a grocer in the town of Chard, England. He followed this business a number of years, and had been a steward of the Pitt estate. (The history of this family is traceable to the time of William the Conqueror.) To the parents of our subject were born several children, who were named as follows: Elizabeth E., living in England; Thomas J., our subject; Edith E., who died at the age of thirty-three years at Chard, England; and John, the last tidings from whom were from Behrings Sea. The last named son was employed by the Western Fur Company of San Francisco, who wrote about ten years ago to his parents that he had returned in safety to that city. The letter spoke highly of his services and said that they wished to employ him continuously.

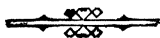
Thomas J. Bandfield was reared to his present trade, that of a cabinet-maker, and was apprenticed at the age of fourteen years to William Warren for seven years. Upon attaining his majority he went to London where he followed his trade until May, 1870, when he came to America, locating in Portland, Mich. A half-brother, George Bandfield had preceded him thither, and located, inducing his brother to stop for a visit. The destination of our subject was Oregon. He, however, stopped here for a time and went to work for D. M. Newland.

At this time overtures were made to him to locate in Grand Rapids, but he was on the other hand persuaded by his relative to open a stock of goods in Portland. Six months afterwards he was burned out, losing about half of his possessions. With a wonderful fund of perseverance, not being discouraged, he bought a lot and erected a building, where he has since continued to transact business.

In 1887 our subject bought the old woolen mill property and converted it into a furniture factory, where he makes a specialty of the manufacturing of library and extension tables. He made between three thousand five hundred and four thousand tables during 1890, and his trade is growing ex-

tensively, as his goods advertise themselves as rapidly as they are exhibited. His trade is among the best houses in the country; this has been altogether owing to his own perseverance and intimate knowledge of the business in which he is engaged. His designs are elegant and original.

Mr. T. J. Bandfield married Annis White, September 23, 1873, at Albion, Mich. She is a daughter of Reuben White, of Jackson, Mich. Four children: Edna J., Harrold Gillespie, Arthur W. and Edith L., have been born and all are living at home. Our subject performs earnestly whatever comes before him and is much interested in any society to which he may belong. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, and takes an active interest in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a conscientious Christian and a member of the Episcopal Church, and in politics he is a Republican. Being energetic and devoted to his business he is successful, and his is one of the leading industries of Portland. He was the prime mover in organizing the Portland Electric Light and Power Company, of which he is the President.



HENRY HOLLAND, a well-to-do farmer of Ferris Township, Montcalm County, and his good wife are both from Merrie England, which was their ancestral home. He has a beautiful home upon his farm of one hundred acres situated on section 12, and feels that in this new country he has met with success which he never could have found across the sea. Both his father and mother were natives of Kent County, England, where our subject was also born and lived until he was six years of age. When his mother's father first came to America he located on a farm in Geauga County, Ohio. From there the mother brought the family to Walworth County, Wis., where she married a second time and from which home she was called to the other world. The ten children of whom our subject was one of the youngest all grew up to manhood and womanhood. This boy was born October 21, 1839. The family sailed from Southampton, England in a sailing

vessel, upon which they were over six weeks on the ocean. They landed in Quebec and came right on to Ohio, where the children were brought up on the farm, getting their education in log school-houses and writing their lessons upon slab desks.

In 1854 this youth went to Fond du Lac County, Wis. and worked out on a farm and in the woods, until 1857, when he returned to Ohio for the girl whom he loved. He was married in Chardon, September 10, 1858, to an English girl, Cornelia Dines, whose father also belonged to one of the families of Kent County, England, and who came to New York State in the early days, engaging in work and earning money to send for his wife and child. His wife bore the maiden name of Amy Wayfield; she died April 23, 1891, in Chagrin Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Dines were the parents of seven children, their daughter Mrs. Holland being born in Fulton, Oswego County, N. Y., January 23, 1840. Her early life was passed, and her education obtained mostly in Ohio.

Mr. Holland bought a small farm in 1861, but he sold it and came to Michigan, where he bought forty acres. He came with only \$3 in his pocket. Locating a spot for the home, he built a log shake, and put in a puncheon floor, and proceeded to clear the farm. He had to go to Ionia and Muir to market; either of those towns being a three days' trip with an ox-team. He has been very successful in farming and has from time to time added to his acreage until he now has one hundred acres, all improved, although he has given forty acres to his son. In 1880 he had a great misfortune in the loss by fire of his barn and granary, at a sacrifice of \$1,500. He immediately rebuilt, erecting at the same time also a new residence. His windmill, orchards, good fences and substantial barns, his dairy and bees all attest a prosperous and well-appointed farm. He raises large amounts of grain and hay, keeps from ten to fifteen cows, mostly of Jersey grade, and his hogs are of the McGee breed. His three sons reside in this township—William and John having farms of their own, which their father assisted them in gaining, and Morris still remaining at home with his father. They brought up a girl who has been to them as a daughter—Cora Loveland, now Mrs. Vance, who resides near

them. For years Mr. Holland has been a School Director and also Drainage Commissioner. He belongs to the Patrons of Industry, is an ardent Republican and has been so almost from the organization of that party. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln. He has often been a delegate to county conventions.



FRANK L. MOON, one of the younger farmers of Otisco Township, Ionia County, was born on section 17, where he has since resided, the date of that event being March 12, 1850. He is a son of James Moon, who was born in New York and came thence to Jackson County, this State, when a lad some fourteen years old. Some years later he came to Ionia County where he has continued to make his home. In Lapeer County, in 1847, he married Lydia M. Russell, daughter of Josiah and Betsey (Hastings) Russell, who were natives of the Empire State. Their children are Adelbert, who lives in Los Angeles, Cal.; Dayton T., who is farming in North Dakota; Alton J., who lives on the farm with his father; and Frank L., whose further history is given below.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were James and Susanah Moon, both of whom were born in the Empire State. In 1837 they came to Ionia County and located on State land in Otisco Township, living on their eighty-acre farm during the balance of their lives. Mr. Moon died in 1869 and his widow in 1871.

The early years of Frank Moon were spent in the manner customary to farmers' sons, in an alternation of study, play and work, and when grown to manhood he possessed a fund of practical knowledge backed by habits of industry and thrift. His early training and his taste led him to follow in his father's footsteps as a tiller of the soil, and he is now operating eighty acres of land which he purchased in 1882. His property is productive, and has been furnished with suitable buildings and the minor improvements belonging to a well-regulated home.

Mr. Moon won for his wife Miss Sarah L. Rich-

mond, whose parents, James C. and Susan L. (Lucas) Richmond, came to Michigan in an early day and took up land in Keene Township, Ionia County. They reared a family of nine children, namely: Orson D., Fred J., Sarah L., Frank P., Abner L., Melvin E., Emerson B., Robert D. and Mary E. The oldest daughter was married to Mr. Moon April 17, 1872. To her have been born two children, a son who died in very early infancy, and Clyde J., who lived to be but eight months old.

The office of Supervisor of Otisco Township is held by Mr. Moon, who is doing good work in his official capacity. He is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He is a Master Mason and is also a member of Grattan Lodge, No. 89, F. & A. M., in which he has been Senior Warden.



GEORGE C. YOUNGMAN, Supervisor of Caton Township, Montcalm County, and a farmer on section 29, was born on the farm where he now resides, June 8, 1856, the first white child to be born in this township. He is a son of Samuel P. and Sarah J. (Dowse) Youngman. For a sketch of their lives see the biography of their other son Samuel J. Our subject was the youngest child of the family. He now owns a farm of two hundred and forty acres all in a high state of cultivation, and he has acquired his property by hard work and unaided effort. He has a good frame house and the best of improvements upon his farm, including well-built and commodious barns. He has followed farming all his life, although with his brother somewhat engaged in the lumbering and logging business. He has held various township and school offices and has been Supervisor for the last two years. He is a Mason, having taken the third degree.

Mr. Youngman is a believer in Christianity and a regular attendant upon the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which he freely gives of his means, although he is not a member. His marriage, October 21, 1874, united him with Julia H. Kilborn, of Cato. She was born in Plattsville, Canada, June

21, 1858, and is a daughter of David and Lavinia (Bowers) Kilborn, natives of Canada now residing in Cato. For Mrs. Youngman's ancestry the reader may consult the sketch of her father, Mr. Kilborn, which appears in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Youngman are the parents of four children—Franklin L., Sarah L., Bennie and Bessie. The third child in order of birth died in infancy.



LEVI F. BURDICK. In the death of the late Mr. Burdick, Ionia County lost a worthy citizen, and the agricultural community an enterprising member. During his residence in the county he reclaimed a large tract of land from an almost primitive condition, brought it under thorough cultivation, and supplied it with such improvements that it is now one of the most comfortable homes in Ionia Township. It consists of one hundred and ninety-seven acres on section 1, where one hundred and sixty acres are under the plow. The present residence of the widow is a substantial brick dwelling built by Mr. Burdick about 1880, and costing \$3,000. It is the third house that has stood upon the place and the second that was built by our subject. Not only is the residence well designed for the comfort of its inmates, but it is furnished in good taste, and is surrounded by every needful farm building, and the orchards, gardens and lawn that make a proper background for a farmhouse.

Mr. Burdick was a son of Robison and Esther (Fox) Burdick, natives of New York, and occupants of a small farm in Livingston County. His birthplace was Seneca County, and his natal day March 22, 1814. He was one in a family of fourteen children, six of whom survive. His education was but limited, but an abundant supply of good common sense and a proper use of the products of the press made him an intelligent man. He began his lifework, farming, empty-handed as to cash, and during his entire life was a hard-working and persevering man. After his marriage he rented two hundred and sixty-five acres in Livingston County, N. Y., for five years, then bought sixty acres which

he soon sold, determined to seek his fortune in the West.

In May, 1847, Mr. and Mrs. Burdick arrived in this State, and were soon settled upon a partly-improved tract of land, whereon a log house stood, and a fine barn for those days. The trees were girdled and plowing had been done, and from this beginning the fine farm of to-day has grown. In his efforts to build up a good home, Mr. Burdick was aided in every way possible by a faithful wife, who had united her fortunes with his December 7, 1840. As years passed, the home was brightened by the birth of five children, four of whom survive to cheer their mother by their love and devotion. These are Frances E., whose home is in North Plains Township, she having married George M. Brown; M. Josephine, wife of A. W. Case, and mother of three children, living in Ionia City; Nellie M., wife of Hiram M. Brown, who has one child, and lives in North Plains Township; Medora B., who lives on the homestead where the wishes of her mother are carried out by her husband, C. F. Kirby. Mr. Kirby is a young man of excellent qualities and a good understanding of agricultural work. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Burdick are well educated, and three of them have been school teachers. Their father sent them to schools he thought better than those of the home neighborhood, Mrs. Brown having attended at Kalamazoo, and Mrs. Kirby spending five years at Ionia and one at Lansing.

Mrs. Burdick bore the maiden name of Polly Stone, and belongs to a family well known and highly reputed in the county. She was born in Livingston County, N. Y., October 3, 1820, to Orrin and Betsey (Cowell) Stone, and is the second child of the second marriage. Her father and her grandfather were natives of Guilford, Conn., and her mother was born in Albany, N. Y. Mr. Stone was a liberal supporter of church work and careful and conscientious in his habits. He agreed with the Presbyterians in his belief, but never united with the church. His wife, mother of Mrs. Burdick, was a Baptist. They lived upon a farm in the Empire State, from the time it was a raw Government claim until it became a well-tilled and valuable piece of property. Mr. Stone left two hun-

dred acres of land, large herds of cattle and other stock, and \$1,700 in the bank. He was twice married, his wives being sisters. By the first union there were two children, Darius and Clarissa, both now deceased. The second marriage was blest with four children: Betsey (now deceased), Mrs. Burdick, John and Mrs. Chase. The father died on October 17, 1845, and the mother May 15, 1842. Upon the tombstone of Grandfather Stone in Albany County, N. Y., is inscribed, "The law of kindness was written on his heart"—a sentence that characterizes his life.

Mr. Burdick was a life-long Republican. He never used either tobacco or liquor, and was a man of most exemplary habits, charitable in his deeds, and friendly in disposition. He had a strong temper, but learned to control it, and few of those who met him during the last years of his life would have believed that in his youth it was almost ungovernable. He was a member of the Christian Church, a Deacon in the organization, and took a great interest in religious matters. His death took place January 15, 1888, when he was seventy-four years old, and he was laid to rest in North Plains cemetery. His widow is a conscientious Christian, and has long been identified with the religious body of which her husband was a member. Although quite advanced in years, she enjoys excellent health and superintends her fine estate. Like other members of her father's family, she is highly esteemed for her good qualities of mind and heart, and her usefulness in the community.



CHARLES NORTHWAY. Among the representative farmers of the Grand River Valley who have been deemed worthy of a place in this ALBUM is Mr. Northway, whose home is in Keene Township, Ionia County. He has long been living on section 4, and now has a fine farm of over one hundred acres, which has been reclaimed from the forest by himself and is a standing monument to the industry and thrift of his nature. He plowed the first furrow and split the first rail on his farm, and while making the initial improvements endured

the usual hardships of those who undertake pioneer work. When he had crops to sell he drew wheat to Grand Rapids with ox-teams and receiving from forty to fifty-six cents per bushel often took half of the amount in store trade, as money was not freely circulated.

Mr. Northway is a native of Delaware County, N. Y., is a son of Augustus and Margaret (Houghtaling) Northway, and was born September 4, 1824. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812. In the spring of 1831 the family went to Trumbull County, Ohio, where they were early settlers and where our subject grew to manhood. He has been a life-long farmer and thoroughly understands his calling. His educational advantages were limited, but he has made such use of the opportunities that were afforded him in school and out as to have become quite well informed on all topics of general interest. In the spring of 1848 he made his way to Ionia County and for a number of years he resided in Otisco Township. He removed to his present location in the spring of 1857, when the country was much less populous than at present and he was considered quite a pioneer. Various improvements were from time to time made upon the property and in 1876 a well-built and attractive residence was put up.

The parental family was a large one and its surviving members are: Rufus lives in Missouri; Charles; Philira, wife of Calvin Smith, is living in Otisco Township; Hiram, who resides in Fremont Center, Newaygo County; Candace, wife of the Rev. Edwin Wright, of the Baptist Church; Drusilla, wife of Dr. Chester Ford, of Cedar Springs; Albert, a resident of Otisco Township; Clara, wife of Albert Spencer, of Minneapolis, Minn.; John, whose home is in Otisco Township.

Charles Northway and Mary A. Hutchinson were united in marriage January 24, 1856. To them was born a son—George. Mr. Northway made a second marriage December 12, 1861, his bride being Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes, widow of Hugh Hayes, formerly of Ionia City. She had one daughter, Jenny, now the wife of Eliud Knapp. Her union with Mr. Northway has been blessed by the birth of three children, daughters, named Mary A., Bernice and Fanny. The eldest is the wife of Lewis

Tuttle and the second married George Daniels. The present Mrs. Northway is a daughter of Robert and Agnes Allen, formerly of Ionia County. She is an intelligent lady, is an excellent house-keeper and takes an active part in social affairs of the neighborhood.

Mr. Northway is a Republican but takes no part in political affairs other than to keep posted regarding the issues before the people and deposit his ballot in the interest of what he considers true principles of Government. He served as School Treasurer but has spent his time chiefly in attending to his personal affairs and joining with his neighbors in the social movements for the general good. He is a supporter of church and schools and is a man of honesty and moral habits. Sturdy and enterprising he does well what he has do, and his fine rural home in which hospitality is dispensed with a lavish hand by his good wife, indicates their desire for culture and genuine comfort.



DANIEL N. WORCESTER, a prominent agriculturist, residing on section 17, Easton Township, Ionia County, is a native of Otisco Township, this county. He was born January 17, 1852, and is a son of Daniel N. and Nancy (Taylor) Worcester. His father was a native of England, and his mother of Ontario, Canada. The Worcester family trace their ancestry back to the "Mayflower" and the Plymouth Rock.

Daniel N. Worcester, the father of our subject, emigrated to Ionia County and settled in Otisco Township, in the woods. Here he cleared up a farm, and became one of the pioneers of the township. His good wife passed away in May, 1856, and he followed her in August of the same year. Of their three children, our subject alone survives. Being thus left an orphan at four years of age, he was taken with his sister Emma N., by his aunt and uncle Wilber, to Monroe County, N. Y., where he was reared and educated in the common schools of that county. In 1872 he returned to Michigan, and remained a short time. He was married October 3, 1872, to Anna M. Stone, a native of Ontario,

Canada, who was born February 19, 1848. Her parents Charles and Jane (Workman) Stone, were natives of Canada of English descent. Her father is deceased, and her mother now resides in Lake County, Mich., with her eldest daughter, Mrs. Norma Samis. Mrs. Worcester came to Michigan with her parents when only twelve years of age, and after five years' residence in St. Clair County, she came to Otisco Township, Ionia County, and lived there many years. Mrs. Stone and her good husband had eight children, of whom seven are living: Minerva, Catherine, George, Charles, Anna M., John and Richard. Mary died when two years of age. The family were brought up in the Baptist Church, in which Mr. Stone was a Deacon.

To Mr. and Mrs. Worcester have been born two children: Lewis F., born May 28, 1874; and Florence M., August 21, 1876. They came West about a year after marriage, and settled on the farm where they now reside, and where they own eighty acres of fine, arable land. He is a Democrat in politics, and is public-spirited and enterprising. That he has prospered is abundantly attested by his good farm and comfortable home. He believes in keeping abreast with the advancement of the age, and favors all forward movements. In business circles he enjoys the fullest confidence, and among the many prominent families of Ionia County, none are more worthy than the Worcesters to be placed in this volume.



ORSON J. ELDRED, a prominent merchant of Clarksville, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., April 5, 1856, and came with his parents to Michigan when a little lad of eight years. He resided with his parents on the farm until he was twenty-two years of age. His parents were Ebenezer and Hannah (Spears) Eldred. The father a native of Vermont, is a farmer and is now carrying on a farm in Barry County, Mich., to which he came about 1864, and where he has since resided. His wife was a native of New York. To this worthy couple were born three children, two of whom are now living—our subject and Florence, wife of Lansing Smith who resides in Barry County, Mich.

The subject of this sketch soon after reaching his majority looked about for a helpmate to join hands with him in the work of life. His choice fell upon Carrie C. Doster, of Prairieville, Barry County, Mich., and the wedding day was January 31, 1878. He engaged in work on a neighbor's farm for one season, after which he began work for himself on shares for a Mrs. Gilkey but his natural bent of mind was not in the line of farming. He chose mercantile pursuits, and in 1886 he entered into business at Dowling, Barry County. Here he remained for three years, in partnership with his brother-in-law. At the end of this time he sold out his interest to his partner and in March, 1889, he came to Clarksville and opened up a stock of general merchandise, a part of which he purchased from N. K. Jepson, who had been doing business at that stand. He carries one of the largest stocks of general merchandise in Clarksville. He is a prominent Democrat and an influential man among his neighbors. He and his good wife are universally respected and their prosperity is a matter of interest to all their neighbors. They are the parents of one child—Roy J.



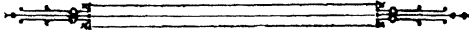
EDWARD MURRAY who resides on the northern part of section 34, Berlin Township, Ionia County, is the son of Eleazer Murray, born March 12, 1809, at Pompey, N. Y. He came to Michigan in 1825, establishing himself in Farmington Township, Oakland County. He was the son of Reuben Murray, a farmer and merchant of New York State. The mother of our subject, Julia Ann (Doty) Murray, was born in 1809 in Troy, N. Y., the daughter of Elisha and Rachael (Allen) Doty. Mrs. Doty's father, James Allen, was a revolutionary soldier and was taken prisoner by the British in the last battle of that war and was not released until seven years later.

The mother of our subject came to Michigan in 1826 with her parents and married Mr. Murray, July 17, 1831. The young couple settled upon a new farm on section 16, of Farmington Township, Oakland County, where for five years they lived

working hard clearing and cultivating the land. They then sold and moved into Bloomfield Township where they resided for two years. In November, 1845, they came to Ionia County, and settled on section 34, of Berlin Township. Upon this raw farm they proceeded to build a log shanty. The nails used in its construction weighed altogether one pound and it was topped off with poles. The heavy timber on this farm was cleared off and improvements put in. Through poverty and hard times incidental to a pioneer's life, this hard working couple brought up their large family of little ones. The father of our subject died May 23, 1880, and his wife survives him although now past her four-score years, is active and bright, and she makes her home with her son, Edward, our subject. She was the mother of six children all of them now living and was with her husband a member of the Baptist Church. He was a strong Republican in politics.

The gentleman whose name heads this biographical sketch was born March 6, 1832, in Oakland County, this State. He received but a scanty education at the district schools, for from the time he was twelve years old, when he came to Ionia County, he was sorely needed by his father as a help on the farm. When eleven years of age he helped about the plowing and was active in clearing off the timber and logging the home farm. He also worked out for others by the month, doing the same kind of work. He remained at home with his parents turning his labor in for their benefit. Edward Murray married, February 15, 1869, Emily P. Austin, a daughter of Mrs. Maria Crawford by a former marriage. This Mrs. Murray was born March 4, 1852 in Ohio and after marriage came with her husband to the farm. They had no children. Our subject remained a widower for twenty-two years, taking care of his parents and the farm, and putting on most of the present improvements. He again married March 8, 1888. In this union he was joined with Eliza Ann (Dibble) Patterson, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y. October 18, 1835. This was her second marriage, and she has five children by her former marriage, two of them now living. Mr. and Mrs. Murray have no children of their own. Three different times during the war the subject of

our sketch volunteered into the army, but on account of his health was not accepted. His sisters are: Emily P. now Mrs. Joseph Morrison; Minerva A., now Mrs. William Milligan; Julia Ann, now Mrs. L. Tanner; Susan, Mrs. Conklin: and Alma A. Mr. Murray is a Republican in politics but on account of failing health is not active outside of his own home and farm. He raises grain and stock, trading considerably in the latter.



GRANT M. MORSE. In the career of this honorable man we read a useful life, and although in his boyhood days he quietly performed the duties of farm life to which he was reared he was also surely laying the foundation of a substantial and efficient character. In his business transactions he is affable and kind and by strict integrity and faithfulness has won and holds the esteem of all with whom he associates.

The birthplace of Grant M. Morse is Portland, Ionia County, November 18, 1854. He was the only son of Darius and Betsey M. (Perry) Morse, natives of Michigan. The Morse's came to this State from Ontario County, N. Y., in about 1824. Thomas J., grandfather of our subject, was then an early settler of Washtenaw County and located on what is called Morse's Plains. His father, Leonard, in turn came a year earlier than his son. The family originally were of Holland descent, although they came directly from England to America. They are all pursuing the avocation of a farmer. The Perry's were also early settlers, coming to Michigan in 1826. Darius J. came to Ionia County in 1853 and bought a farm five miles north of Portland on section 8. On this farm he lived until 1875 when he engaged in the mercantile business at Collins. His wife died May 1, 1874. In 1884 he came to Portland where he lived with his son until the time of his death, in October, 1890.

Mr. Morse was reared to farm life until nineteen years of age and attended school in the district and also in the agricultural college at Lansing. He was with his father in the mercantile business at Collins five years, then came to Portland where he en-

gaged in the general grocery business with C. S. Wolcott as partner two years. He soon bought his partner's interest and continued in business six years. In 1888 he sold out and since that time has been engaged in his present business, that of life and fire insurance. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1890 and performed the duties faithfully and conscientiously.

July 9, 1879, Mr. Morse was married to Sarah E. Perry, of Washtenaw County, this State, daughter of Joseph H. Perry. One child, Leon G., blessed this union. He is a member of the Masonic order and has been Master of the lodge; he is now High Priest of Portland Chapter No. 39, and is also connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Portland and is now their Grand Lodge Representative. He is a Republican in politics and was Township Superintendent of Schools three terms, was Treasurer of Portland in 1888-89, is a member of the Board of Trustees of the village of Portland. He is active in politics and attends county and State conventions, takes part in all their deliberations and is much esteemed as an efficient member of their associations.



bR. GREEN. Ionia, Ionia County, is the home of this gentleman, who is doubly entitled to rank among the professional men of the city, as he has studied both law and medicine and has been duly certificated in each. He was born in Monroe County, N. Y., in 1831, and spent his youth on a farm, attending the public schools. His parents were Christian and Sarah (Martin) Green, the former from Pennsylvania and the latter from Maryland. The father died in the Empire State in 1864, some years after the mother passed away, she having died during the infancy of our subject.

In what was known as Genesee College and which afterward developed into the Syracuse University, young Green pursued the higher branches of study and having decided to turn his attention to medicine, he took up therapeutics in institutions in Ann

Arbor, this State, and Buffalo, N. Y. In due time he was honored with the degree of Doctor of Medicine and began the practice of the science in Ionia. During the war he became surgeon of the Twenty-first Regiment, but on account of ill-health was compelled to resign and was afterward appointed United States Marshal by President Johnson. While discharging the duties of that office he studied law and was admitted in 1870 to the bar. From that time until within a few years past he practiced law.

In 1861 Mr. Green was married to Miss Cordelia Norton, a native of Livingston County, N. Y., and to them have been born two children—Catherine and Frederick B. Mr. and Mrs. Green belong to the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Green is a Knight Templar and for a long time was commander of a Grand Army Post. He has been a member of the School Board.



HENRY TREMAYNE, M. D. As a private citizen, the excellent education of Dr. Tremayne, his gentlemanly manners and the interest he takes in all matters of progress, together with a character that is honorable and upright, give him prominence. As a physician he has been very successful, being ever on the alert to add to his already fine store of professional learning, and to increase his skill by careful study of symptoms and equally careful attention to certain lines of remedial work. His career as a physician in Ionia County has been marked by professional zeal and popularity. He stands well with other members of the profession in the county and is the trusted family physician in many of the best homes in his community.

Dr. Tremayne was born in the county of Leeds, Canada, August 16, 1839. He is the son of the Rev. Francis and Elizabeth (Tremain) Tremayne, natives of England, whence they came first to New York State and afterwards to Canada. The Rev. Francis Tremayne was a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, and for many years fulfilled the offices of the ministry. He died in Canada, February 27,

1863, at the age of seventy-six years, and his bereaved wife followed him four days later to the spirit land at the age of seventy-eight years.

Our subject was reared to the pursuit of farming and when young served as clerk in a general store in Canada, also managed a store independently for awhile. He was a student of the Medical Department of the University at Toronto where he graduated in 1865. He then came directly to Ionia County, and settled in what is now known as Tremayne Corners, which was named for him. Later he spent two years at Portland, and settled in Ionia in 1876. In June of 1862 he was united in wedlock with Jane Johnson, and their marriage has been blessed by the birth of two children, namely: Emma, who is the wife of Amos Welch, and Harry H., a traveling salesman who makes his headquarters in New York. Dr. Tremayne is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, and also of the Masonic Order having attained the council degrees. He is a consistent member of the Episcopal Church and in politics votes with the Democracy.

The medical profession in Ionia is represented by a number of men of widely extended knowledge of the principles of therapeutics, skill in their use and practical application, and a reputation for success in their chosen field of labor. Dr. Tremayne is very prominent among these and the reputation which he enjoys has come to him deservedly as the reward of a lifetime of patient and intelligent effort. As a successful practitioner he is widely known, and while succeeding in alleviating suffering and prolonging life, he has also received the merited reward of this world's goods.



BENONI HOLCOMB, one of the representative pioneers of Ionia County, is with his estimable wife enjoying the comforts of life on their fine farm on section 1, Easton Township. By the exercise of the sterling qualities of character and habits of usefulness and industry, Mr. Holcomb has accumulated a good property and in securing it he recognizes that his companion was an efficient helper. The estate on

which they live consists of one hundred and nine acres of land and is well improved and well stocked, thus fitted to be the abiding place of people of good taste and desire for comfort.

Mr. Holcomb was born in Washington County, N. Y., December 18, 1812, and was in his twentieth year when with his parents he went to Genesee County. His father, Jesse Holcomb, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Lucy (Webb) Holcomb, was born in Massachusetts. A brother of his mother was an officer in the Revolutionary army. The father died in New York and the mother in this State, to which she followed her son. Our subject remained in the Empire State until 1836 then came to what was at that time the Territory of Michigan, and for several years made his home in St. Clair County. About 1845 he removed to Ionia County and took up his residence on his present farm, which was covered with timber and in a wild region where no roads had been opened. Husband and wife bore with fortitude and uncomplaining cheerfulness the trials and hardships of pioneer life and won the regard of their neighbors by their kindness, hospitality and genuine merit.

Mrs. Holcomb, whose wedding day was September 24, 1843, bore the maiden name of Lucy A. Wedge and was born in Connecticut, June 29, 1823. She is a daughter of Moses and Mary A. (Draper) Wedge, the former deceased and the latter living in Ionia County and now in her eighty-ninth year. Mrs. Holcomb is one of a large family including also the following living sons and daughters: Sanford, Mrs. Mary A. McCoy, Oliver, Mrs. Harrit E. Malone, Henry, George, and Mrs. Melissa Harter, all in the same county. Our subject and his wife have six children: Jessie I. and William E. living in Montcalm County; Lucy A., wife of Theodore Harris, whose home is in Stanton; Sanford, living in Mecosta County; Melissa M., wife of Grant Cunningham, in Montcalm County, and Moses who resides in Easton Township, Ionia County.

In past years Mr. Holcomb was an active, sympathizing friend of the schools and every project that promised to be for the public good. It has been his aim to keep posted on matters of general interest and to understand what was going on

in political, social and religious circles. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Baptist Church. Mrs. Holcomb belongs to the Christian Church. Their friends will be pleased to see this record of their lives, brief though it is, and many will be able to supply the finishing touches to the picture that is here drawn in outline. Honorable, self-sacrificing and earnest in their lives, their example may well be taken as a model and guide for the rising generation.



GEORGE KING. For nearly a quarter of a century Mr. King has been a conspicuous member of the farming community of Ionia County and particularly of that class which belongs to Easton Township. In the spring of the year 1867 he settled on land he still occupies on section 1. The fine residence he now dwells in was put up in 1870 and is a dwelling in which good cheer for mind and body abounds. Around it stretch forty well-tilled acres which constitute the farm of Mr. King and have been the scene of his labors for many years.

Mr. King is the son of Anthony and Martha (Holmes) King, the former a native of Rhode Island and the latter of New York. They made their home in the latter State until 1828, when they came to the then Territory of Michigan and settled in Macomb County. Their son George was then a youth of eighteen years, he having been born in Chenango County, N. Y., December 15, 1810. He had received a rudimentary education in the district schools of his native State, his attendance being confined principally to the winter months. He has been engaged in various occupations but in his later years has given his attention entirely to farming.

In 1850 Mr. King crossed the plains to California on foot, taking one hundred days for the trip. He reached Nevada City and at once went into the gold-fields where for three years he followed mining with a fair degree of success. He then returned to this State via Central America and New York City. In 1859 he again crossed the plains, and

about eighty days after leaving home came out on the Feather River, where for a year he wielded the miner's pick and shovel. He then went to Nevada and for two years followed the stonemason's trade there. In 1867 he had settled on his present farm, coming hither from Kent County where he had been for several years.

In 1838 Mr. King was married to Miss Mary A. Lester. They had one daughter—Elizabeth who is now deceased. In 1845 Mr. King was married a second time, his bride being Phebe A. Fuller who was born in Ontario County, N. Y., August 4, 1822. She is a daughter of Daniel and Anna (Ames) Fuller, who were natives of Connecticut, and her father was a soldier in the War of 1812. Her brothers and sisters now living are: Sewell, in Grand Rapids; Brazilla, Mark and George L. in Ottawa County; Caroline, now Mrs. Wannamaker, in Canada. By his second marriage Mr. King has had a son—Brayton D., who is a civil engineer and lives in Chicago, Ill.

The principles of the Republican party find a firm supporter in Mr. King. Mrs. King was formerly identified with the Daughters of Temperance and has always taken an active interest in temperance work. Both he and his wife are classed among the honored residents of the vicinity.



GEORGE S. HYDE, manufacturer and wholesaler of lumber and shingles, is a popular business man in McBride. He has traveled a great deal and has thus become well informed in regard to many parts of the country. He is at once affable, genial and entertaining, making friends wherever he goes and is at the same time a thorough gentleman and a man of strict honor. He is a man of fine physique being well built, erect, and his very handshake is that of friendship. His home is a large and commodious dwelling, furnished in a style agreeable to his taste and charmingly arranged by Mrs. Hyde, who is a lady of more than ordinary culture and refinement.

The father of our subject was Luman C. Hyde, born in Middlebury, Vt. His grandfather, Joshua

Jr., went to that State from Connecticut when a young lad. The great-grandfather, the Hon. Joshua Hyde, a native of Connecticut, was one of the early settlers of Middlebury, Vt., where he entered Government land and improved a farm from the wilderness, becoming a well-to-do and respected citizen. He was a Selectman of Middlebury and was the first Representative from Vermont to the State Legislature at Montpelier. The family is of English descent as the parents of that gentleman came from England.

The father of our subject became the possessor of the old homestead which his father and grandfather had improved on the old Burlington and Rutland Stage Road, and there he engaged in general farming. In 1878 he sold his property and came to Michigan and resided with his sons at McBride until his death in 1883, at the age of sixty-four years. He was a Universalist in his religious belief and a man of sterling worth and responsibility, liberal, open-hearted and public spirited. In politics he was first a Whig, then an Abolitionist and finally a Republican.

The mother of our subject, Marana Severance, a native of Middlebury, Vt., was a daughter of Moses Severance. Her father was born in Massachusetts, and went to Vermont with his parents when quite young. He was engaged in farming, but in latter years removed to Andover, Ohio, where he carried on bee culture and spent the remainder of his days. His daughter, the mother of our subject, is a lady of culture and education and was a teacher before her marriage. She is of a poetical turn and has written much that has been published in our leading journals. She resides with our subject and is now sixty-nine years of age. She is the mother of four children, three sons and one daughter.

The subject of this sketch was born in Middlebury, Vt., July 16, 1851. Up to the time when he fourteen years old he divided his time between the district and graded schools and the work on the farm. During the next four years he went to school during the winter only. December 17, 1870, he left home to come to Michigan and went to work in the lumber woods. He worked for four months at Sheridan, receiving \$26 per month. He was then employed in a steam saw-mill, sorting

lumber for three years. He and his brother, F. D., used to do as large a day's work as any man there, as they sometime piled twenty-eight thousand feet a day. He worked for two years in the mill of W. B. Stone, and in 1877 returned East, where he engaged in a nursery business on Long Island. But he was disappointed in his expectations and two years later returned to Michigan, coming to McBride which was then just starting.

Mr. Hyde had now obtained a practical knowledge of the lumber business and for eighteen months he acted as inspector at the Windsor, McBride and Howes mills. He then took charge of the Hurdman, Corey & Co., yard, one mile north of Edmore, and was Inspector for three years, handling during that time over nineteen million feet of lumber. He now built a pleasant home in Edmore and made his residence there, serving Júst Bros., for eighteen months as Inspector.

The subject of this sketch was now prepared to go into business for himself, and in March, 1884, he formed a partnership with his brother, F. D., as Hyde Bros., and started the wholesale manufacturing of lumber and shingles at McBride, in which they have been very successful. After two years he removed to McBride and has himself attended to the business on the road, doing the traveling for the firm. In March, 1890, the brothers dissolved partnership and our subject carries it on alone, devoting himself largely to wholesaling the lumber from other mills, and handles the cut of from ten to fifteen mills. He has an interest in the mills at Gladwyn and Millbrook, and owns property in both Osceola and Isabella Counties. He is also a partner in the general merchandise firm of Carpenter, Toole & Co., at McBride. He owns real estate both here and at Edmore and Sheridan, and is a shareholder in the Robson Opera House at Edmore.

Mr. Hyde was married in Stanton, November 19, 1888, to Mrs. Minnie Covel, a daughter of John Roop, of Ohio. Her first husband Capt. J. F. Covel, was a gallant soldier and a fine shot, commanding Company I, First United States Sharpshooters. A wound received during the war hastened the close of his life, which ended in March, 1883. He was a man of liberal education, a graduate of the State Agricultural College at Lansing, a leading lawyer

of the county, residing at Stanton, and for a number of years filled the office of County Superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Hyde is a graduate of the the Ladies' Seminary at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and followed for some years the profession of teaching. She is a Congregationalist in her church connections. Mr. Hyde is liberal in his religious views and a staunch Republican in politics. He is a member of the Knights of the Grip and also of the Union Association of Retail Lumber Dealers of Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania.



HARVEY LEE VAN BENSCHOTEN. Some time during the middle of the sixteenth century, when Philip II. was endeavoring to establish the Spanish Inquisition in the Netherlands, backed by the army of Spain under the command of the terrible Duke of Alva, and supported in every way by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, two Holland noblemen by the name of Van Benschoten, renounced their allegiance to the ruling sovereign and entered the service of William, of Orange, known to history as William, the Silent. For thus espousing the sacred cause of political and religious liberty and patriotically resisting the machinations of this despotism, they incurred the displeasure of the Pope, and as a result were excommunicated. Their property was decreed confiscated and an order was issued that they should be banished from the realm.

As this event occurred previous to the time when William of Orange had made a success of his efforts, the sentence was easy of execution. Consequently these two noblemen hastily converted their property into gold and secretly took passage for the New World. On their way to this country the ship on which they sailed foundered and all on board perished save a few, among whom were the two noblemen. They floated on some timbers and drifted to an island near by, whence they were soon rescued by a Dutch trading-vessel and carried to a small trading-station that has been successively known as Manhattan, New Amsterdam and New York City. Their gold went down

in the vessel, but they soon regained their fortunes by engaging extensively in the fur trade. One of the ancestors of this family, Nicholas Van Benschoten, of Amsterdam, invented the thimble.

During the time of the Dutch Governor, Peter Stuyvestant, the Van Benschoten family was one of the most prominent Knickerbocker families in New York. Washington Irving in his humorous book "The Knickerbocker History of New York," in describing the gathering of the old Dutch families to give battle to the Swedes, thus speaks of them: "Then came the Van Benschotens, of Nyack and Kakiat, who were the first that did ever kick with the left foot; they were gallant bushwackers and hunters of coons by moonlight."

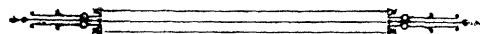
From one of these families sprang Harvey Lee Van Benschoten, the subject of this sketch. His great-grandfather, Aaron, was born in New York City before the Revolutionary War, and removed into Sullivan County, that State, where he raised a large family, among whom was Cornelius, the grandfather of Harvey. Cornelius was a tanner and currier by trade and acquired a great reputation in that line. The family removed to Ohio in the fall of 1816, and among the large family of Cornelius was the son, George D., the father of Harvey, who was a farmer, and who is still living and resides in the township of Sebewa, Ionia County, Mich.

The subject of this sketch was born in the township just named, January 27, 1863. He spent the first fourteen years of his life in this township, attending a country school and helping in the farm work. He then spent six years in the Portland public schools and one year in the Michigan Agricultural College, and was graduated from the Portland High School in the summer of 1883. In the fall of the same year he entered the Normal College at Valparaiso, Ind., where he remained one year, taking a special course. He then returned home and taught school for two years, gaining an enviable reputation as a teacher.

The young man now commenced the study of law in the office of Clarence Cole at Portland, and after three months there entered the department of law at Michigan University, from which he was graduated with a degree of Bachelor of

Laws in June, 1888. At this time he was admitted to practice in the Washtenaw County Bar. He formed a partnership, which lasted for a few months, with Charles W. Thomson, of Port Sanilac, Mich., and after this entered into a partnership with Mr. Bennett, which lasted until May, 1890, since which time Mr. Van Benschoten has been practicing alone.

At the commencement exercises of the Union Christian College he was awarded the degree of M. S. on a Thesis on the subject of "Our Country's Duty to Humanity." He was married November 15, 1888, to Mary (Collins) Staley, of Collins, Mich., a descendant of two old and prominent New York families. A son was born February 17, 1890, and bears the name of Maurice Thompson, being named after the popular novelist and poet. Our subject has been prominently identified with the history of the Democratic party in the Fifth District of Michigan for the past four years, but has never aspired to any office but once, when he was elected School Inspector of Sebewa by a large majority.



JAMES MILNE, one of the old residents of Portland, Ionia County, was born in London, England, November 4, 1820. He is a son of John and Hannah (Collins) Milne, natives of Scotland and England respectively. John, when a lad, was taken to London, England where he grew to manhood and followed the trade of a baker. In 1833 he came to America, being shipwrecked on the coast of Newfoundland and losing many things of value which they were bringing with them to their new home.

Mr. Milne and his son John finally reached Ionia County, Mich., which was then a wilderness, making their journey part of the way by Indian trail. The Milne tract joins the corporation of Portland on the north. They had to visit the land office at White Pigeon in order to enter their land, and afterward returned to Detroit, to purchase teams, tools, etc.

The party which set out from Detroit for the

land which they had pre-empted was composed of Mr. Milne and his son John, Mr. King, Mr. Shepard, Mr. Friend, Mr. Inksman and Selah Arms. Mr. Inksman died from exposure, as they were overtaken by winter while on their way, and was buried without ceremony and without a coffin. Recently his bones have been exhumed and caused considerable excitement, until Mr. Milne's explanation made the matter clear to the community. They reached their destination in mid-winter and pitched their tent on the banks of the Looking Glass River. Here they remained until spring, completely worn out. Mr. Milne and son having come direct from the metropolis of the world and being unused to the hardships and labors of pioneer life, suffered much from exposure and the difficulties of the way.

The party finally obtained the help of some Indians in erecting a house which was the second cabin ever constructed in Ionia County. They cleared about ten acres on which they raised potatoes and corn so they were prepared for the next winter. In the fall of 1834 the wife and seven children of Mr. Milne joined him in the new home. On the canal boat while making their journey to Buffalo, one of the children was attacked with the smallpox and the mother and oldest daughter remained behind with him while the other children were sent on in care of a friend. Those left behind followed about three weeks later. Here the family lived about fifteen years in this log house and then removed somewhat reluctantly into a more comfortable and commodious frame building which they had erected. Only three of that family survive—our subject, Mrs. Boyne and one who is living in London.

To the father of this family belongs the credit of being the second settler of what is now Ionia County. He had to go to Detroit for all supplies and even to send or receive a letter, and traveling was done with ox-teams, two weeks being a short time in which to make the trip. The first crop of wheat raised by them was trodden out by oxen and taken to Ionia to be ground, going by the Grand River in Indian canoes, a trip of one week.

Our subject was married to Helen Merchant in 1854 and she died five years later. His present

wife, Mary Morn became Mrs. Milne May 24, 1864. To them was born one son, John Milne, who was born in Colorado. Mr. Milne has been a Republican ever since the organization of that party and from that time to this has voted for every Presidential candidate nominated by the party. He has in his possession the original deed signed by Andrew Jackson, bearing date of 1833.



hARVEY W. DODGE, who is now engaged in the grocery business in Saranac, has lived in Ionia County since 1856, when, a youth of sixteen years, he accompanied his parents hither. He has seen many changes in this region and has done much for the advancement and improvement thereof, especially of the town in which he is now living. This was a village containing but eight or nine houses when he first set eyes upon it, and all but two of the brick stores that now adorn its streets were built under contracts he made.

Mr. Dodge was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., July 24, 1840, and is a son of William R. and Mary S. (Noble) Dodge. His parents were born in New York, the one being of German and the other of English descent. The father was a mason and followed his trade the greater part of his life, but is now living in retirement in Saranac. He is now seventy-seven and his wife seventy-two years old; both belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject was reared in Wyoming County, N. Y., and received a common school education there. When he accompanied his parents to this State he found employment on a farm and continued to labor as a farm hand two years. He then began work at the mason's trade, which he thoroughly mastered and at which he worked summers until 1888. During the winter months he worked in a sawmill. At the date mentioned he went to Lake Odessa and for ten months ran a hotel there, then returned to Saranac and remodeled a hotel here and carried it on about five months. The building was then destroyed by fire and in the fall of 1890

he embarked in the grocery trade and still carries it on with good results.

Mr. Dodge was married to Miss Mary J. Campbell of Lowell, November 6, 1860, and two children have been born of the union. Carrie, the first-born, is deceased, but Melvin still gladdens the the home by his love. Mrs. Dodge is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Dodge is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge in Saranac and of the society of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His political connection is with the Prohibition party. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dodge command the respect of their associates and number many sincere friends among them.



JOSEPH M. HATHAWAY, M. D., a well-known dentist of Ionia, was born in Oakland County, Mich., March 26, 1840. He is the son of George W. and Sarah (Voorhies) Hathaway, natives of New York, where they pursued farming. The father died in Oakland County in 1869, leaving his widow who still survives. Eight children were born to them, six of whom are living, namely: Joseph M., James B., of Orion, Mich.; Adelaide, wife of George Bird, of Pontiac; Frances, wife of William Corey, of Mason; Ella J., wife of Henry G. Corey, of Ionia; Madden, a dental surgeon at Orion.

The subject of this sketch was brought up to the pursuit of agriculture, but when the war broke out during the year he gained his majority, he left the farm for the field of battle, enlisting as a private in August, 1861, in Company G, First Michigan Cavalry. He was in service for three years and was largely engaged in scouting, receiving his honorable discharge in September, 1864.

The young soldier came to Ionia in that year and commenced the practice of dentistry with a brother. In 1866 he went to Flint, Mich., but after a year being taken sick, sold out his business there and retired to the farm. In 1871, he resumed the practice of dentistry in Shelbina, Mo., but being urged by his brother to return to Ionia, he did so in 1872, and has since practiced in this

city. His marriage took place here on Christmas Day, 1869, and his bride was Miss Minnie Phillips. Two children have come to brighten this home, Nellie May and Claude, both of whom are at home. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Royal Arcanum, and in politics is a Republican. His wife is an active member of the Disciples Church.



HON. WILLARD HAWLEY. The public services and private life of this recently departed member of the Michigan Legislature, entitle him to honorable mention in this ALBUM. He was born in Grantford, Ontario, December 28, 1832, and was one of a family of sixteen children. His early life was spent in the vicinity of his birthplace, but in 1854 he came to Michigan with his father and the rest of the family. They settled in Keene Township, Ionia County, where he had retained his residence up to the time of his death, which occurred at Lansing April 7, 1891, and resulted from erysipelas and heart disease, superinduced by an attack of the grippe.

The marriage of Willard Hawley with Miss Caroline Marble, of Keene Township, occurred in November, 1855. His bereaved widow with six children are left to mourn his loss. The newly married couple settled on a farm in Keene Township, which they made their permanent home, and changed it from merely a wild state to one of the pleasantest homes in the county. Together they worked for the upbuilding of church and society and for the cause of humanity, and now when one has put aside the life work, the home is indeed desolate. In the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he had been a member for many years, Mr. Hawley was highly valued. His heart and purse went together, and it was largely by his aid that a class had been supported in Keene Township. He was very deeply interested in all matters which pertained to the welfare of his neighbors and their moral, religious and social prosperity.

In politics Mr. Hawley was a Republican of the most pronounced kind. When that party was or-

ganized under the oaks of Jackson, Mich., its principles gained his allegiance and in 1856 he cast his vote for Fremont. He has held various positions of honor and trust in the gift of the people. He was three times elected Supervisor, had been Justice of the Peace and twice elected to the Legislature. In all these he was ever faithful to his trust and in the Legislature his acts were always conscientious and party issues were lost sight of when the interest of the people was involved.

The business houses of Saranac, where the Hon. Mr. Hawley's funeral was held, were draped in mourning, as was also the Baptist Church where the obsequies were attended. The Rev. A. P. Moors, an old friend of the deceased, had charge of the ceremonies, in which he was assisted by the Rev. J. W. Arney, of Saranac and the Rev. Mr. Townsend, of Keene. About forty members of the Legislature, Judge Morse, of the State Supreme Court, and Attorney-General Ellis were present. As the procession wended its way in from the home it was met at the bridge by a delegation of the business men of the village, and at the railroad by the members of the Legislature, who followed the remains to the church. On the return these gentlemen stood with opened ranks and uncovered heads as the mournful cortege passed, thus giving the last farewell to a colleague whom they had all learned to respect.



DE LOSS GIBSON, a representative farmer of Keene Township, residing on section 11, is a native of Genesee County, N. Y., and was born July 24, 1804. He is a son of Archibald K. and Sylvia (Gibbs) Gibson. When about two years old he removed with his parents to Otsego County, N. Y., and was there reared to manhood and has been a lifelong farmer. He was married November 1, 1827, to Louisa Adkins, a native of Otsego County, N. Y.

Five children have been sent to bless the home of this worthy couple, namely: Mary J., who became Mrs. Henry, and is now a widow; Ruth A., the wife of S. M. Stebbins; Celesta, the wife of

Jabez Hull; and William W. In 1839 he emigrated with his family to Michigan and located for a short time in Eaton County and came to Ionia County in 1841, making his residence in Keene Township. He has served his township faithfully, both as Treasurer and Highway Commissioner and is a man who is truly respected by all who know him.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HART, one of the oldest business men of Vestaburgh, Montcalm County, is a prominent and prosperous citizen who is universally respected and esteemed for his liberal open-hearted disposition and upright character. He was born near Eaton, Preble County, Ohio, March 4, 1845. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of fine arable land, upon section 33, Richland Township, adjoining Vestaburgh, and one hundred and sixty acres in Ferris Township, and has been for some time engaged in manufacturing and wholesaling shingles as well as in general merchandise in Vestaburgh. His father, Isaac, was born in Preble County, Ohio, where his grandfather, John, a native of Pennsylvania was one of the pioneers. He was a prominent man in all social matters and a minister in the Dunkard Church. Later, this grandfather, who was of German descent, removed to Wabash County, Ind., where he resided until his death.

The father of our subject was a farmer in Ohio, and removed about the year 1848 to the vicinity of Ligonier, Noble County, Ind., where he engaged in farming and coopering, and remained there until 1852 when he went to Elkhart County, the same State, and carried on his business there until 1874 when he retired and made his home in Sturgis, Mich., until his death at the age of seventy-four. He was a Universalist in his religious belief. The mother of our subject, Elizabeth Bower, was born in Preble County, Ohio, and she also died in Sturgis. She had eleven children as follows: Joseph, who was in the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry and was killed at the battle of Shiloh; Sarah (Mrs. Beam) residing at Three Oaks this State; Phoebe and Isaac who both died at Sturgis; James A. who

resides in that city; Lizzie, (Mrs. Wood), of Toledo; our subject and Harvey E. of Vestaburgh; Maria, (Mrs. Creager), of Sturgis; Dulcina, (Mrs. Tinley) of Brinton; and W. H. who lives in Wisconsin.

The subject of this sketch was three years old when he traveled with his parents by team and wagon to Indiana, making his home in Noble County. He removed with them in 1852 to Elkhart County, and spent his boyhood on the farm and in the district schools. He was early set to work on the farm and in the cooper shop, and could hoop a barrel when twelve years old. He remained at home until he was thirty-six years old, but when twenty-one began working in sawmills, beginning at the bottom and working his way up as head sawyer. In 1871 he went to Duluth, Minn., in the employ of the Mauger & Gray Lumber Company as night watchman and after a year there found his way back to Indiana and in 1873 he came to Michigan and entered the employ of a firm at Bloomingdale, Van Buren County, and after two years there went to South Haven and worked at Ludwig's Pier and at Black Lakes, in all three of these places acting as head man.

In 1877 Mr. Hart was employed as head sawyer at Stanton and in the spring of the following year he took a farm on the Grand River, but in the fall came to Vestaburgh and operated W. G. Pratt's mill until the following spring. During the summer he clerked for Starkweather the merchant and in October, 1879, he leased a shingle mill and began manufacturing on contract for Preston & Merriman of Ionia. He also started in the merchandising business at about the same date buying out Mr. Daniel McCrea and going into partnership with his brother W. H. Hart. In 1885 he took entire charge of the business.

Mr. Hart has always paid strict attention to the lumber business. He moved his mill to Ferris Township on to a tract of land owned by Mr. Preston. After manufacturing for him for three years the mill burned down, after which he bought that gentleman's land, rebuilt the mill and began the manufacture of shingles. He paid \$10,000 for the mill and the land and had no financial backing but he cleared it all. In 1890 he had used up the pine

upon this land and was obliged to stop operations although he had been very successful.

Besides the one hundred and sixty acres, from which he has cut the trees for his mill, he has an improved farm of equal size which he superintends, paying especial attention to hay raising and to full blooded registered Jersey cattle and registered Poland-China hogs. He also raises some standard bred Hambletonian and draft horses. His village property is valuable, his store being well located and doing a good business.

The marriage of our subject took place in Coopersville, Mich., in 1878. His bride was Miss Lillian Livingston, a native of New York State. They have had three children, Winnie, Earl and Flossie. Mr. Hart was Township Treasurer for two years and is now School Assessor. He belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons at Stanton and to the Knights of the Maccabees at Vestaburgh, and is a true blue Republican. His wife is a member of the Advent Church.



GORDAN A. WILLETT, a well-known citizen of Ionia, was born August 23, 1835, in Onondaga County, N. Y. His parents were Alfred F. and Hannah Smith Willett. For further detail in regard to this family of worth and social standing see the sketch of J. Milan Willett in this volume. Our subject left home after the death of his father and lived with Robert Earl, the senior member of the firm of Earl, Clark & Co., of Vesper, Onondaga County, N. Y. He remained with him for seven years and while there was allowed to attend school about half of the time, alternating this with work in the store. Later he spent a year with Henry A. Shaw, a merchant in Otisco, N. Y., serving him as clerk.

The young man came to Michigan in 1855 and first settled at Ionia, where he spent a year with the firm of Lake, Wilson & Kennedy. After that he wrote for some time in the Register's office. In 1857 he purchased a half interest in the Gothic mills at Lyons, which he sold out in 1858. He then engaged as agent for Soule, Robinson & Co.,

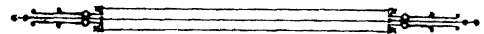
in the sale of real estate. His marriage with Mary Elizabeth Yates, January 16, 1862, was an event of great importance in his life. This lady is the daughter of Job L. and Jane (Sessions) Yates, old settlers who had come to Ionia County in 1835.

After marriage Mr. Willett aided in the recruiting service and in April, 1862, he went to Washington, in expectation of being appointed Quartermaster of Berdan's Sharp Shooters. He was, however, disappointed in this plan, owing to some changes which were necessarily made in the organization of the regiment. He was however engaged in the employ of the Sanitary Commission as Executive or Administrative Agent. For a time he was in charge of their supplies on the store ship, and afterward on the ship "Elm City," which was engaged in carrying sick and wounded soldiers from the battlefields and camp hospitals to hospitals in the cities. He was subsequently transferred to the ocean steamer "S. R. Spaulding" and continued thus until the demands for ships in the transportation of troops was so great as to necessitate the employment of every one in that service, thus crippling the Sanitary Commission. In 1863-64 Mr. Willett resided in Washington City.

In 1865 our subject went to the oil fields of Ohio and leased oil lands from which he has never had any income, but still holds his leases on this unproductive property. After becoming discouraged there he returned to Michigan where he indulged in stock speculation. In 1867 he formed a partnership with his father-in-law, J. S. Yates, and bought a stock of farming implements, hardware, field seeds, etc., and engaged in this line of trade, continuing in it for ten years, after which Mr. Willett took the business alone and carried it on until a paralytic stroke in 1885 compelled cessation of business. This paralysis was the result of an injury as Mr. Willett had been thrown from his buggy upon the railroad track and severely injured upon the head.

Since Mr. Willett's failure in health he has not engaged in any regular business but has been very active in behalf of college and church work. A part of the time he has been employed as Secretary of the State Missionary Society of the Church of Christ and has been very successful in raising

money for church and kindred purposes. Since March, 1860, he has been a zealous and faithful member of that church and in all church work is unusually efficient and helpful. Previous to his conversion he was for two years a radical infidel, and for a time would not even attend church. But through it all and since then he has been strictly conscientious in regard to various matters, which he considers worldly and dangerous, such as card playing, dancing and partaking of intoxicating liquors. He is a Republican in politics but is not a politician in the sense of desiring office, as he has consistently and persistently refused to accept any position. He is a pronounced Prohibitionist in principle and is always earnest and active in opposing the liquor traffic. To him and his good wife have been born four sons: Herbert L. now pastor of the Church of Christ at Dayton, Ohio, a young man of good promise; Arthur F., a store keeper at the asylum; Leslie G. a student, and Enos Hale, who died October 10, 1884, while in infancy.



WILLIAM H. GARDNER. Within the past decade this gentleman has been counted among the best financiers in the town of Edmore, Montcalm County, and has made hosts of friends here by his genial, kindly ways and his mental and moral stamina. He has now retired from the business he formerly followed—banking, and gives his attention wholly to the duties of his official position which includes collections, as he is Township Treasurer, and to an oversight of his investments. He occupies a tasteful residence, set in pleasant grounds and in a good neighborhood, where the family are often visited by their many friends.

The father of our subject was a native of the Empire State and his name was the same as that of his son. He owned a farm in Medina County, Ohio, and dealt in musical instruments, being himself a musician. He died when the son of whom we write was but two years old, leaving his widow with four small children to care for and guide. She was the daughter of Levi Branch, a farmer,

and was able to carry on her farm and keep her boys with her until they were nearly grown. Her business tact was equal to that of any man in the locality, as was shown by her success in controlling her affairs. She never married again but after the Civil War came to this State and made her home in Pentwater, where she is now living. She is a devout member of the Congregational Church, of which her husband was a member.

When Mr. Gardner died none of his sons was yet ten years old, and as time passed on they did the work on the farm under the guidance of the mother. When the first call was made for volunteers after the firing upon Ft. Sumter, Clark enlisted in the Eighth Ohio Infantry and served as a member of the Brigade Band until the close of the war. He is now in the jewelry business in Manistee, this State. Frank enlisted in August, 1861, in the Tenth Ohio Cavalry, and served during the war, being promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant. He is now a lumber dealer in Pentwater. Darwin also entered the army but not until 1864, and then he was but fourteen years old. He went into a hundred day's regiment and when the term had expired enlisted in the One Hundred Third Ohio Infantry and continued his soldier's career until the close of the war, from which he came home broken down in health. His present residence is in Pentwater.

The fourth son was born in Medina County, Ohio, November 20, 1852, and was early set to work on the farm and whenever he could do so went to the "little old red schoolhouse" where the district school was in session. When his brothers went to the war he remained in charge of the homestead and on it he stayed until 1867, when he sold, in order to come to this State, whither his brothers had come after their army life was over. He left Cleveland on the "Messenger," the first boat that went through the Straits that season, and having secured the position of cabin-boy spent the rest of the summer, and the next also, on board. He spent the winters in Pentwater, aiding his brothers, with whom he made his home until he was twenty years of age. Prior to that time he had taught some and he then went to Oberlin, Ohio, and devoted two years to diligent study in the

college there, paying his own expenses, and teaching two terms in the State after he left school.

In 1876 Mr. Gardner came to Stanton, Montcalm County, and became bookkeeper for D. M. Gardner, a merchant in whose employ he spent three years. The spring of 1881 saw him located in Edmore and opening a bank, in partnership with A. D. F. Gardner, under the style of Gardner & Gardner. The gentlemen made a success of their enterprise after three or four others had tried and failed, and continued it until 1888, combining with it an insurance business. They then dissolved and until September, 1889, our subject carried on the Edmore Exchange Bank. That month he sold out to Wisner & Co., and bought the stock of dry-goods in the establishment known as the "Bee Hive," which had been carried on by Frank Dreese, and ran it until 1890. Since that time he has been attending only to his official duties and such matters as require his management in the disposition of his funds. During his active business life he did an extensive wholesale lumber trade, particularly in shingles, handling over ten million per year.

While living in Stanton Mr. Gardner was married in 1879 to Miss Louisa Manville, a native of Missouri and the ward of Miss Augusta Chapin who is now pastor of a church in Oak Park, Chicago. Mrs. Gardner is a lady of unusual refinement, and accomplished, particularly in music, of which she made a specialty for years, completing her studies in Detroit and becoming a vocal artist. She has a very fine voice, which is now delighting the music lovers who attend the performances of the McCaull Opera Company, and she already has an engagement made for next season with the Emma Juch Opera Company. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner have three children, named respectively, Morris, William H., Jr., and Florence.

Mr. Gardner was a charter member and one of the organizers of the Home Building Association, and Treasurer during his entire membership. He was Village Trustee for years, and is now President of the Village Board and a member of the School Board and serving his third appointment as Notary Public, besides attending to the duties belonging to Township Treasurer. During one year he held the office of Township Supervisor, Politi-

cally he is an active and staunch Republican, and he has constantly been a delegate to county and State conventions for years past and is also a member of the County Central Committee. He wields a decided influence in the community and displays an unusual amount of energy in whatever he takes in hand. Having been successful in securing a fair share of worldly goods, he is able to gratify his tastes, to bestow good advantages upon his children, and engage in every project in which his judgment concurs as likely to be of benefit. Mrs. Gardner is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.



WARREN HOPKINS, a resident of Portland, Ionia County, has had an interesting and somewhat eventful history. His paternal ancestors were of Scotch and his maternal of English origin, and several generations of the Hopkins family lived in Rhode Island, whence their descendants have scattered to various States, being largely represented in those of the lake region. They were among the earliest colonists in North America, and two of the direct progenitors of our subject belonged to the Revolutionary forces, the one as an officer and his son as a private. Jonah Hopkins, grandfather of him of whom we write, married Mary Tucker, and about the beginning of the nineteenth century removed to Otsego County, N. Y., where he reared seven children. He was a man of steady, industrious habits, and became well-to-do, owning six hundred acres of good land. In his old age by endorsing notes he lost his property. He was a member of the Baptist Church.

William Hutchins, of Vermont, maternal grandfather of Warren Hopkins, was in his teens when the Revolution began, but he entered the service as waiter to his father, who was an officer in the Patriot army. He soon entered the ranks as a soldier, and fought from the age of fourteen until the close of the war. He married Miss Lucena Allen, a relative of Gen. Ethan Allen, and they reared seven children. One of his sons having come West

was a delegate to the convention that formed the first constitution of Michigan, and afterward was elected to the State Senate. Grandfather Hutchins removed to New York not long after his marriage, and died in Ohio at the age of hundred and one years. He was a man of pure and temperate habits, was energetic and industrious, and cleared up with his own hands three new farms. His courage and firmness were unquestioned, yet he was peaceable and gentle.

Alvason Hopkins, father of our subject, was born in Foster, Providence County, R. I., January 28, 1791, and was a lad some nine years old when his parents removed to Otsego County, N. Y. He remained at home working on his father's farm after he was of age, with the understanding that he should receive due recompense for his time and labor, but no part of the farm was deeded to him, and when the crash came and the father lost his property, Alvason was left penniless. His spirit was so broken by this calamity, coming as it did when he had a young family to support, that he lost courage and ambition and never thereafter made any determined effort to retrieve his fortunes. Although possessed of good natural ability, and with no bad habits, but steady, temperate and honest, he was content to make a bare living, and remained poor the rest of his lifetime. After several changes of residence in New York he came to this State in 1839, and Ionia County was his home until he was called hence in 1872.

The marriage of Alvason Hopkins, Sr., and Prudence Hutchins took place in the spring of 1812. The bride was born in Otsego County, N. Y., March 13, 1797, and was the daughter of William Hutchins, who has already been mentioned. She was a woman of superior intelligence and possessed great energy and force of character, but was withal a model of womanliness, gentle, kind, loving, generous and true. She never lost her hope or courage, but as long as she was able struggled hard to better the condition of the family and educate her children. She made a public profession of religion when eleven years old, uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but after coming to Michigan she united with the Free Will Baptists. She entered into rest October 16, 1861. She was

the mother of seven children: Orren, Allen, Alva-son, Sarah A., William B., Nathaniel and Warren. Orren and Nathaniel are deceased, the latter having died in Andersonville prison, July 12, 1864.

Warren Hopkins was born in Wayne County, N. Y., February 20, 1829. During the summer of 1833 he attended school a few weeks, learning his letters and how to read easy lessons. From that time until 1839 his schooling did not exceed ten months, but when the family came West he could read well and write fairly. He had no further opportunity to attend school until the winter of 1840-41, when by walking nearly two miles through snow knee deep in an untraveled road, he studied in the district school eight weeks. Near the middle of the session he began the study of Arithmetic, and by the close had learned the fundamental rules, mastered reduction and common fractions. After that he attended school some six or eight months, making his entire school life no more than twenty months at a district school.

When but nine or ten years old Mr. Hopkins determined, if possible, to get an education, and so went to school whenever he could, and when he could not studied at home. As he grew older he frequently took a book with him to his work in the fields, and by extra efforts made time in which to study them there. While in California, from 1852 to 1859, he spent rainy days and evenings in con-ning works on algebra, natural philosophy, astronomy, geology, physiology and chemistry, and although he did not gain a thorough knowledge of those sciences he did learn much of them. His main object in going West was to try and obtain means with which to care for his parents, and at the same time pay his way through school. His disappointment at his failure has to some extent saddened his life, yet he does not regret the choice he made when his parents' comfort lay in one scale and a liberal education in the other. By the constant reading of books, newspapers and magazines he has stored his mind with much useful and general information.

From the time Mr. Hopkins was seven years old he was required to take a part in any work that was suitable for him to perform, but he was never required to do that which was too hard for one of

his age, or to unduly tax his strength by an unreasonable amount. Though small for his age he was strong and active, took great pleasure in physical sports, and to these facts and his strictly temperate habits he attributes his extreme good health and strength even to the age of threescore years. He has never been too sick to take care of himself, and has never had a doctor called for him on account of sickness.

After working at farming more or less Mr. Hopkins, in the winter of 1851-52, took a school, but after teaching a few weeks gave it up and started for California. He was accompanied by his brother-in-law, William W. Fitch; and Patrick Lawless, an old pioneer of Portland Township. They hired a conveyance to Detroit, crossed the river and traveled by stage to Niagara Falls. Canada was sparsely settled but there was a grog shop every two or three miles along the stage road, and at nearly every one the drivers would stop, going in ostensibly to warm themselves as the weather was very cold. They would remain inside until the passengers would leave the coaches and go in for a drink, when they would immediately start on again, thus giving ground for the belief that they had made arrangements with the saloonkeepers to bring them as much custom as possible and share in the profits. Mr. Hopkins, though not a total abstainer was opposed to tipping, and being constitutionally stubborn and sufficiently warm blooded to stand the cold, absolutely refused to leave the coach or drink.

Owing to the delay occasioned by these many stoppages, though the party traveled night and day, they were one week going from Detroit to Niagara Falls. When they reached New York they found that through tickets on the steamship line had been bought up for three months ahead, so great was the rush to the Coast. They must take tickets to the isthmus and take their chances of getting on from there, or take passage on a sailing vessel around Cape Horn. The "Greyhound," a clipper-built ship, was about to sail, and Mr. Hopkins favored securing passage in her but was overruled by his comrades. The party embarked for Panama, and waited there three weeks for a boat to San Francisco, then taking passage on the "Cor-

nelia," a poor and slow craft manned by Hollanders, who were such timorous sailors that with the most favorable winds they made but four or five miles an hour. It was soon found that neither provisions nor water would last until Acapulco was reached, and the passengers took charge of the affairs, with the exception of the sailing and management of the vessel itself, and placed those on board on one-third rations of provisions and a pint of water per day.

At Acapulco our subject and Mr. Fitch went on shore and managed to pass the guard and secrete themselves on board a Pacific mail steamer en route for San Francisco. They had not the money to pay their passage even had the boat not already been crowded, but after port was left far behind they sought the captain and offered him what funds they had—some \$30 and the watch of Mr. Hopkins—and expressed their willingness to work for the balance due. Their frankness secured them immunity from the fate of the forty others who were found in hiding when the boat was searched, and who did the work of the regular hands the rest of voyage. Upon reaching their port Mr. Hopkins and his comrade had \$5.25 between them, while their funds had they sailed on the "Greyhound" would have been \$125 each, and they were chagrined to see that vessel enter the harbor but twelve hours behind them. They worked their way to Sacramento and started on foot for the mines at Pluggtown, in Eldorado County. There they found John and Robert Toan, of Portland, who had gone West by the overland route in 1850.

Mr. Hopkins could have found work at good wages, or have pre-empted a quarter section of choice land within two miles of Sacramento, and he was convinced that by the latter course he would be sure of a fortune in the course of years, but it would then be too late to return and attend the university. He therefore determined to take his chances at mining, and for seven years he worked as hard as ever man did. All seemed without avail to win a fortune, although he did not drink, gamble, or spend money foolishly. Once or twice he came very near striking a rich gold lead, and sometimes made money for a time, only to lose it in another venture. He could always get good

wages, and was even importuned by one man for whom he had worked more than for any other, to take a position as teamster at \$25 per month more than he gave others. He said he could well afford this as Mr. Hopkins took such good care of a team that he would leave it in better condition at the end of the season than at the beginning, and yet get a fifth more work from it than the other teams gave.

Mr. Hopkins occasionally sent home a moderate amount of money, and finally learning that his beloved mother was rapidly failing in health he returned to Michigan, reaching home February 21, 1859, the day after the thirtieth anniversary of his birth. He found his mother very ill with inflammation of the lungs, but she recovered and survived for a few years. He brought home a moderate amount of money, sufficient to have given him a little chance here, but finding his parents and also his sister and her family in much more destitute circumstances than he had supposed, he used it to make them more comfortable. The mother owned a small farm of twenty-five acres and on this he went to work, and succeeded in making a living for them all.

June 10, 1860, Mr. Hopkins was married to Miss Mary A. Green, daughter of Samuel and Belinda Green, of Portland Township. She was born in Lyons Township, January 17, 1839, and was one in a family of twelve children, all of whom lived to maturity. The first child born to Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins was Otis Bingham, whose natal day was April 21, 1862; and the second, Mary Alice, was born January 19, 1865. The wife and mother died January 29, of the latter year, and was laid to rest by the side of the mother-in-law, to whom she had been a daughter in affection and devotion. Mrs. Mary Hopkins was a noble woman, who acted well her part in every relationship in life, and faithfully performed every duty that devolved upon her. Although never identified with any church her life was a prayerful and exemplary one. The son was stricken with malignant scarletina, and died January 23, 1866. Though less than four years of age he had won the admiring love of all who knew him for his brave, generous and manly spirit. Without being in the least precocious he was active,

intelligent and courageous, and is still spoken of in terms of praise.

Mr. Hopkins followed photography a few months but the work did not agree with him and he again returned to farming, but in the spring of 1870, coming to the conclusion that the labor was too hard for a man with but one leg—he had lost one during war—he looked about for another occupation. Gen. Humphrey, then Auditor General of the State, offered him a clerkship for three months at a salary of \$50 per month, and he gladly accepted. His services were retained from May 1 until October, when he was told that he would be permanently engaged if the people of his old neighborhood desired. Making this fact known to a few friends Mr. Hopkins received testimonials amply sufficient to secure the position, although they were not used, as prior to their arrival at Lansing the Auditor General looked over his work and decided in his favor from that alone. He remained in the office until November 20, 1882, and ere long was in receipt of \$1,000 per annum, the largest salary the Auditor General was then allowed to pay. Mr. Hopkins did considerable outside business, buying and selling land, conveyancing, locating Government land for settlers, and acting as Claim Agent.

Mr. Hopkins traded his Ionia County land for property in Lansing, but lost considerable, as city property soon fell from forty to fifty per cent. In the spring of 1882 his health beginning to fail he decided to leave the office, and finding one hundred and thirty acres of Government land vacant in an old settled part of the State—the southern part of St. Clair County—he took it as a homestead, and resigning his clerkship moved to the tract in December. He retained the property until April, 1890, when it was sold. When he left Lansing he had a house and lot there which he deeded to his daughter after her marriage. She had been united to Frank Campbell, of St. Clair County, November 11, 1885. In the spring of 1890 she traded her Lansing property for a beautiful home of six acres in the village of Jonesville, Hillsdale County, where she now lives. She has one living child, a son, born September 14, 1889. After selling his St. Clair property Mr. Hopkins spent the summer with

his daughter, and in the fall located in the village of Portland.

After the breaking out of the Civil War Mr. Hopkins felt it his duty to help to defend the free institutions bequeathed to him and his countrymen by the soldiers of the Revolution, among whom had been his own forefathers, both paternal and maternal. He enlisted September 20, 1862, as private in Company E, Sixth Michigan Cavalry. The regiment left the State early in December, and on reaching Washington went into camp near that city to be trained in military tactics and the manual of arms. Almost the first news they heard was of Burnside's defeat at Fredericksburg, which for a time lowered their spirits. Mr. Hopkins, who had known many Southern men, appreciated their bravery and intrepidity, and realizing also the undaunted courage of the people of the North, felt that the struggle would be a severe one, although he never doubted that the right would prevail.

In the spring of 1863 the regiment was sent to do picket duty along Difficult Creek, in Virginia, and thence took part in the Gettysburg campaign. A few days before the noted battle Gen. Custer was given command of the brigade which consisted of the First, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Michigan Cavalry. The Sixth first met the enemy at Hanover, Pa., the day before the battle of Gettysburg began. Just after noon when marching from Littlestown it had turned from the road and was passing in column of fours through a wheatfield when it came upon Fitz Hugh Lee's brigade with a section of artillery in position. The artillery at once opened on the head of the column with shell, and as it would have been more than foolish for a raw regiment to engage a brigade of veterans, Col. Gray ordered a halt and then gave the command "fours right about."

Mr. Hopkins had seriously distrusted his own courage, and feared that he would instinctively seek his own safety when the regiment went into action, but he was greatly surprised to find that he was not frightened out of his wits, but understood and was ready to obey the word of command. He saw that many of the men wheeled their horses square about, and having a hot temper he was much provoked and lost confidence in his com-

rades. Before the day ended, however, he learned that they were as brave men as ever drew sabres in their country's cause. Retiring before the enemy they reached Hanover and were ordered to dismount and fight on foot with their Spencer rifles. Mr. Hopkins did not know whether they were doing well or ill until nightfall, when a major from a veteran New York regiment rode in front of the line, and halting in front of the company said: "You Western men make the best soldiers in the world. You are a new regiment and this is your first engagement, yet there has never been better fighting done since the war began than you have done to-day."

The brigade did good service in the battle of Gettysburg and followed Lee to the Potomac, having many engagements with detachments of his army, capturing many prisoners, and otherwise doing the enemy great damage. September 14, 1863, the brigade was engaged at Culpeper Court House and followed the enemy to and drove them across the Rapidan. On the 16th a small body of the enemy succeeded in re-crossing the river a little above Somerville Ford, and in a skirmish with them Mr. Hopkins was severely wounded in the left foot and leg and taken prisoner. The rebels being driven back through the ford, two stalwart soldiers picked our subject up and carried him. Being unable to take him to the hospital without coming under the guns of the Union sharpshooters they kept him with them until after dark. Mr. Hopkins was treated with extreme kindness by his captors, some even risking their lives in going to a spring to get fresh water for him to drink and to bathe his painful wound. With several of the men Mr. Hopkins has since corresponded, and to them he has become warmly attached. After dark he was taken back two miles to a field hospital, and the ensuing morning the leg was amputated at the knee joint by Surgeon Hardy, of the Sixth North Carolina Infantry. When put into an ambulance to be taken to a Confederate hospital, Surgeon Hardy seeing that he had no blanket gave him a new Confederate one of fine quality.

During the five days in which Mr. Hopkins lay in the hospital at Orange Court House he fared fully as well as any Confederate soldier there, and

was treated with the utmost kindness and respect. September 22 he was taken in an ambulance car to Richmond and placed in the Libby Prison Hospital, where he remained seven days and had no cause to complain of his treatment. The Confederate surgeon carefully dressed his wound and he was given enough to eat, and as good as he had had while in the Confederate hospital at Orange Court House. September 29 he was paroled, taken to City Point and put on board the flag-of-truce boat, "City of New York."

Mr. Hopkins was taken to Annapolis and placed in the Naval School Hospital, and the kindness he received at the hands of the ladies on board the boat, and those connected with the hospital, leads him to say: "God bless women always, for we poor devils of men would be but a sorry lot were it not for the saving influence of their presence among us." He was transferred to St. Mary's Hospital at Detroit, and applying for a discharge received it April 4, 1864. The next day he went home and received a joyous welcome from his wife and children and aged father. His little son when told that this was his papa, would look sharply at him and then at the picture hanging on the wall as though puzzled to understand how it could be. He seemed at once to comprehend his father's disabled condition and seemed anxious to help and wait upon him whenever he could. Mr. Hopkins farmed during the season, finding that he could plant and hoe in the garden and do some farm work by using only one crutch. He would plow with a steady team, hopping behind the plow in the furrow, but ere long he left the place to enter upon a life which has been already spoken of.

The second marriage of Mr. Hopkins took place November 18, 1866, his bride being Miss Amelia A. Safford, daughter of Hiram F. and Minerva Safford, who had settled in Portland Township in 1842. There Mr. Safford died May 17, 1888. The family consisted of seven children. Mrs. Hopkins being the eldest. She became the mother of three children, but all died in infancy.

Soon after his discharge from the army Mr. Hopkins began writing for newspapers, and he has continued this work to the present time, not engaged as a regular correspondent but sending occa-

sional articles to a dozen or more papers and journals published in this and other States. He has written considerable on temperance, political and other questions of the day, always advocating temperance principles and a prohibitory law. He became a teetotaler in 1872, when he joined the order of Good Templars with which he is still identified. In politics he is a Republican, but holds country before party and advocates no policy simply because it is that of the Republican party. Knowing the Southern people to be brave, and believing them to be conscientious and honorable, and at the present time loyal, he has labored and written to help bring about genuine peace, friendship and goodwill between the two sections of the country.

The religious belief of Mr. Hopkins is best expressed in his own words: "I was brought up by a Christian mother, who taught me to believe the Bible to be the word of God written by divinely inspired men. Up to the time I was nineteen or twenty years old I believed whatever my mother taught me, but after that thought it my duty and privilege to think for myself, and am now a Deist. I do not believe in Revelation, but believe in one God, eternal in duration, infinite in all his attributes—among which are wisdom, power, love, mercy, truth and justice—and who is the author of man's being. I do not believe God is a cruel, vindictive tyrant, but a merciful, loving Heavenly Father. I believe in the immortality of the human soul. Believing God to be infinite in love, wisdom and power, and that love to be infinite must necessarily embrace all mankind, and that it is repugnant to reason to suppose that a being of infinite love would will that any being loved should suffer through all eternity, or a being possessed of infinite wisdom and power would suffer his own will to be thwarted, I believe God will in His own good time and in His own way lead all souls to see the right way, and follow it to perfect peace and happiness. I believe it to be the duty and the highest privilege of man to love and worship his Creator, and to yield cheerful obedience to His laws so far as he can know and understand them. That in serving mankind, in faithfully performing one's duty in every position in which one may be placed—as son, brother, friend, husband, father,

citizen and member of society—in striving to better the condition of man and to elevate him morally, intellectually and physically; in being kind, not only to his fellow-men but to the lower animals (all being God's creatures), and at the same time loving God, acknowledging His authority, and feeling grateful to Him for His blessings, constitutes the whole duty of man, and is serving God in the only way acceptable to Him. That cruelty or unmercifulness to man or beast is not only low and savage, but is a crime that degrades one almost to a level with the vilest brute. That an act of kindness to man or even to a beast, if prompted by love, kindness of heart and a merciful disposition, brings one nearer to his God than does all the so-called religious ceremonies one could perform in a lifetime."



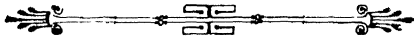
DAVID J. BROWN, proprietor of the Lake View Mills, Montcalm County, was born in Spring Township, Crawford County, Pa., November 27, 1837. He is a son of Joseph and Polly (Haggard) Brown, natives of New York, the former born May 1, 1801, and the latter April 10, 1806. The father died at the old home in Pennsylvania and his wife still resides there. He was a farmer all his life and had a beautiful farm and was comfortably and pleasantly situated. He was a Republican in politics.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth child of his parents. He had his early training and education on his father's farm in Pennsylvania, and when seventeen years old began doing for himself in Erie County, Pa. There he married and worked on a farm and at the carpenter's trade until 1873, when he came to Lake View, Mich., and followed carpentering and the trade of a millwright for three years. After this he went to Langston, Montcalm County, and built a gristmill, which he carried on for three years. After this he came back to Lake View and bought his present flouring-mill which he still operates. He owns some farming lands, but gives most of his attention to milling. He started in life empty-handed.

He married before he was seventeen years old, and after settling with the parson he found himself the possessor of a blooming bride and \$1.25.

Mr. Brown is a strong Republican and was an earnest supporter of the administration during the war. In October, 1861, he joined the army as a private in Company C, One Hundred and Eleventh Pennsylvania Infantry. He served about two years in the Army of the Potomac when he was discharged, owing to physical disability. After regaining his health he re-entered the service as a private in Company M, Two Hundred and Second Pennsylvania Infantry, and served with the Army of the Potomac until the close of the war. He served in many hard-fought battles and was never wounded or taken prisoner, but has had poor health ever since coming from the army. He was finally mustered out of service at Washington, D. C., and received his final discharge at Pittsburg, Pa., in June, 1865. He belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees.

Our subject's marriage took place October 29, 1854. He was then united with Miss Sarah J. Eddy, of Erie County, Pa., a native of New York State, where she was born October 26, 1840, and a daughter of Elizur and Sophia Eddy. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of two children—George A., of Lake View, who married Stella Perry, of this village, and who is the father of three children—Roy, Ray and Vivian. Ida, the youngest born, is the wife of G. W. Burr, of Saginaw, Mich., who is doing a large business on the instalment plan.



CHARLES P. SOMERS. A prominent place among the business men of Ionia County is that occupied by the gentleman above-named, who is a dealer in agricultural implements and hardware in the village of Pewamo. He is a member of the firm of Klee & Co., which is doing a fine trade and is a potent factor in the financial life of the place. Mr. Somers has met with some misfortune but his undaunted spirit was not quelled, and he was soon re-established and pursuing his

course with renewed energy. His chief characteristics are a straightforward zeal and persistence that carry to a finish his business enterprises and gain the commendation of his associates.

Mr. Somers is a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., the date of his birth being October 16, 1844. His parents were Frederic and Roba (Marcy) Somers, and his father was a general laborer and farmer. He came to this State in 1876, and spent the remainder of his days with his son, dying in 1887. The mother had passed away in 1876. She was of English descent and Mr. Somers was of German lineage. They had a family of seven children, all yet living except one—Peter, a brakeman on the New York & Harlem Railroad, who stepped from his train to speak to a friend and stumbled over some gravel that he did not see (it being in the evening), and was thrown under the cars and killed. The survivors are: George, of New York; Lofs, a resident of Pewamo; Mrs. Caroline Marcy, of New York; Andrew J., who lives in Kearney, Neb.; Mrs. Lenora Vosburg, of Lime Rock, Conn.; and our subject.

Mr. Somers, of whom we write, received his education in the district schools and prepared himself for life still further by taking a commercial course of study in Albion, this State. He had come West when a young man of twenty-one and located at Pewamo. Here he engaged as clerk in the general store of S. W. Webber, in whose employ he remained some time, and continued his clerical labors for different firms five years. He then bought out the first hardware store in the place and embarked in business for himself. In 1885 Mr. Somers lost his store and part of his stock by fire, the loss being about \$1,000, but as soon as suitable arrangements could be made he opened up in another location. The establishment in which he is interested is the only one of the kind in the town.

Prosperity has crowned Mr. Somers' efforts and he has a fine home in the village and a small farm within the corporation. His home is presided over by a lady of intelligence and capability who was known in her maidenhood as Miss Alma Bissell, and at the time of her marriage, in 1869, was residing in Pewamo. The congenial home has been

blessed by the birth of six children, named respectively: Nellie, who died March 21, 1891, aged eighteen years, six months, twenty-one days; Cora, Louie, Jay, Bessie and Maud. Mr. Somers is a Republican, and has been honored by election to the office of Township Treasurer three terms. He is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.



WA. DEHART, one of the well-known citizens of Bushnell Township, Montcalm County, was born in Richmond, N. Y., November 12, 1841. He was a son of Nathaniel and Maria (Simonson) DeHart, both of New York. He spent his early life at home with his parents until he reached his twentieth year. His father was by occupation a skiff builder. At the age of thirteen, the boy having attended the common schools in New York, came to Michigan in 1855, and after this he again attended school for a few months.

Our subject reached Montcalm County in 1856, and made his first home, which has proved to be his permanent one, in Bushnell Township. He began farming and cleared a place upon which to plant a crop and continued in this work until 1864, when he entered the army, enlisting September 3 in Company C, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry. He was in the Army of the Cumberland and was under Sherman during all his long march to the sea. He took part in the engagement at Averysboro, March 16, 1865, and at Bentonville, in the same State, on the 19th of the same month. He was with the Reserve at Black River, and afterward at Raleigh. After this he went to Richmond and was present at Washington at the Grand Review. He received his discharge June 8, 1865, and was mustered out at Detroit, and returned to Bushnell Township and again engaged in farming.

The subject of this sketch was united in marriage December 24, 1863, with Margery C. Jenks, of Montcalm County. Seven children have blessed this union, namely: Horace W., Gilbert F., Milton A., Ora Vernon, Raymond C., Elva and Ann.

His wife died February 28, 1879. He was again married on the 29th of June, 1879. The lady who now united her fortunes with our subject bore the maiden name of Mary M. McComb, and was a resident of Evergreen Township. She has two children—Harvey S., born January 19, 1882; and Hassle K., July 19, 1883. Both children are living and in health.

Mr. DeHart followed farming until 1875, when he was appointed Postmaster of Vickeryville, and then entered into a store of general merchandise at the same place, where he continued for twelve years, after which he sold out his interest. His son, Milton A., conducts the business at present, as his father now devotes himself entirely to farming. Mr. DeHart is a thorough Republican and takes a lively interest in political questions, having canvassed the town on several occasions in the interest of the party. Although offered various township offices he has persistently refused them, as he does not wish to hold office. He has been particularly active in a literary society which was organized here, and is a popular speaker on various subjects which are open for discussion.



hON. J. W. ROBINSON is carrying on a large business in Vestaburg, Montcalm County. He is engaged not only in merchandising and manufacturing, but also has a wholesale business in lumber and shingles, and devotes some attention to the sale of real-estate. His father and grandfather Watson and Thomas Robinson were both natives of Yorkshire, England, the grandfather being a manufacturer of woollens in the city of Leeds. He afterward came to Canada and engaged in farming near Peterboro, where he died.

The father of our subject was seven years old when he accompanied his parents to America. He received a good education and became a minister in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and during the Canadian Rebellion he acted as an officer. He removed to Woodstock and early in the '50s came to the United States and settled in Kansas. He was

a strong anti-slavery man and very outspoken. He found it prudent to come East again in order to escape the lynching, which the outlaws had promised. He settled in Sanilac County, Mich., on a farm, and later went to Bad Axe, Huron County, where he owns a nicely improved farm, and where he has filled the offices of Supervisor and Justice of the Peace.

The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Livick, was born in Cumberland, England. Her father, John Livick was a soldier in the English army, who came to America upon his retirement from the service when she was a child. Our subject is the youngest child of these worthy parents, and was born September 11, 1854. When he was seven years old he went to live with his sister at East Saginaw, here he attended public school and High School, until he was fourteen years of age when they removed to the country near Merrill. When eighteen years old he began working in a sawmill, and soon learned to file and saw. Upon reaching his majority our subject began teaching school. He was in the Jonesfield school for three years, and at the same time was Township Clerk, Supervisor and Township Superintendent of Schools. This latter position he held for three years. During this time he had bought land. In 1879 he sold one of his farms, coming to Vestaburg, and investing the money in a store here. He bought out William A. Starkweather, and has since that time been in general merchandise. He is the oldest merchant here, and one of the most successful. At the same time he began dealing in shingles, and two years later he entered upon the manufacture of shingles at Fish Creek in Ferris Township. Since then he has owned and operated different mills, dealing largely in shingles and lumber. He also deals in timber land, and owns a tract near Aberdeen, Wash., where he has a fine residence. He owns over fourteen hundred and ninety acres of land in Montcalm and Isabella Counties, having two hundred and ninety acres adjacent to Vestaburg, one hundred of which are finely improved and on which general farming is carried on.

On October 26, 1878, Mr. Robinson entered into a life union, which has proved in every way congenial and harmonious with Anna Bryant, who was

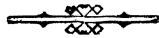
born in Canada, of Scotch parentage. Her father, Capt. George Bryant, was a sea and lake captain. This lady is well educated, and for a number of years was a teacher. Three children have been born to them—Watson B., John L. and Willan. Mr. Robinson was Supervisor of Richland for four years, his term beginning in 1880. In 1877 he was elected to the State Legislature on the Democratic ticket. In this campaign he ran largely ahead of his ticket, overcoming a majority on the other side of over three hundred. During his term of service in the Legislature, he served on various important committees. He is independent in politics.



EDWIN A. MURPHY, the subject of this brief sketch, is one of Ionia County's brightest and most highly respected young citizens. His birth was celebrated at the village of Lyons, Mich., as the second son of Edward and Mary Murphy, when the guns of Ft. Sumter were rousing the nation to war. Born of honest and hard-working parents, who early moved with their sons to a forest home, young Murphy was surrounded by all the influences that pave the way to a thoughtful and successful life. At the age of eight years, he with ax in hand assisted his father in clearing away the forest of a one hundred and twenty-acre farm. During the winter months he attended the district school until 1877, when he entered the State Normal School to prepare himself for teaching, and in 1878 began a course in the Agricultural College, from which institution he was graduated with honors in 1882, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. Since that time he has been actively engaged in school work, and has become one of the leading educators in the county. He now holds the position of Superintendent of the Muir public schools, and Chairman of the County Board of School Examiners, to which position he has once been appointed and three times elected, and has recently been elected as the County Superintendent of Schools. His work in the school room is of the highest order, and his active and genial disposition inspires teachers and pupils where-

ever he goes. He is pleasant and sociable to his fellow-citizens without distinction, and is always free to further their best interests. As a speaker he is fluent and forcible, and has shown himself to be a talented writer. He is a prominent member of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities.

Mr. Murphy is much interested in agricultural pursuits, and is an admirer of fine live stock, and during the summer vacation finds recreation from his school labors upon his picturesque Riverside stock farm.



CHARLES NORTHWAY is numbered among the progressive and prosperous pioneers of the Grand River Valley and is thoroughly deserving of a place in this ALBUM. He is now residing on section 4, Keene Township, where he has made his home since the spring of 1867, although for a longer period a resident of Ionia County. He was born in Delaware County, N. Y., September 4, 1824, his parents being Augustus and Margaret (Houghtaling) Northway. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812. The parental family was large and the following survive: Rufus, Charles, Mrs. Calvin Smith, Mrs. Candace Wright, Mrs. Chester Ford, Albert, Mrs. Albert Spencer and John. They are variously located in this State, Missouri and Minnesota, and are carrying on useful careers.

In 1831 our subject with his parents removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, where they were early settlers, and where Mr. Northway attained to man's estate. From his early years he has been engaged in farming, and has borne a part in the wearisome work necessary to clear and develop unbroken land, as well as the lighter labor of carrying on an improved tract. His educational privileges were limited, but he is practically well informed and has a good understanding of the important branches. He came to Ionia County in the spring of 1848, and made his home in Otisco Township until he took possession of his present farm. He had practically no means and the land was in its primitive condition, not a furrow hay-

ing been turned thereon, nor a stick of timber removed. He split the first rail, and indeed made nearly every one now used in his farm fences. He has over one hundred acres cleared and developed and supplied with good buildings, including a modern farm house put up in 1876.

Among the early experiences of Mr. Northway may be mentioned hauling wheat to Grand Rapids with an ox-team and receiving from forty to sixty cents per bushel for his load, half being given in cash and half traded out. He probably did as much hard work as any man in the township, and his estate is a standing monument to his industry and sturdy enterprise. While promoting his personal interests he did not forget that others were to be considered, but was ever ready to take a part in enterprises that would improve the condition of the people whether in the line of their mental, moral or material advancement. A man of sterling integrity his word has long been considered as good as his bond. He has served as School Treasurer of his district, and while not a church member has given financial support and countenance to religious societies.

January 24, 1856, Mr. Northway was married to Miss Mary A. Hutchinson, who bore him one son, George. His second marriage took place December 12, 1859, and his bride on this occasion was Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes, widow of Hugh Hayes, formerly of the city of Ionia. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children: Mary A., wife of Lewis Tuttle; Berenice, wife of George Daniels; and Fanny. Mrs. Northway had one child by her first husband—Jenny, now the wife of Eliud Knapp. Mrs. Northway is a daughter of Robert and Agnes Allen, and is an intelligent, hospitable and kindly woman who finds great enjoyment in bestowing upon others a share in the comforts which crown her days.



JAMES H. RUEL. Although this gentleman is not yet thirty years old he has climbed to an enviable position on the financial ladder and bears a prominent part in the affairs of Pewamo, Ionia County, and the country

roundabout. He is Cashier and Manager of the Webber & Ruel Bank, a flourishing institution that stands on a solid basis and has the confidence of the people as being controlled by men of honor and substance. Mr. Ruel has a bright mind, a good education, and considerable experience in business life in various lines, and shows acumen and tact as a financier.

Mr. Ruel traces his lineage to Scotland, whence his father, George Ruel, came when twenty years of age. He was born on a farm near Glasgow, on the 16th of June, 1827, and after he had crossed the Atlantic located in Canada. At Gault he married Miss Helen Biggar, who was likewise a native of "Auld Scotia," and to them came six sons and daughters, all living, as is the mother, her home being in Fowlerville, Mich. The children are: Jeannette, wife of Mark Palmer, a train conductor, living in Waukesha, Wis.; Annie, wife of the Rev. G. E. Paddock, in Minneapolis, Minn.; previous to her marriage she was a missionary to Utah. George W., a resident of Seattle, Wash.; Mattie, wife of the Rev. W. H. Prentice, whose home is in Cromwell, Ind.; and Nellie, now Mrs. S. D. Williams, of Ann Arbor, who was formerly Superintendent of Public Instruction in Livingston County, and is a competent lawyer.

George Ruel served an apprenticeship of five years at the merchant tailor's business in Edinburgh, Scotland, and was a successful prosecutor of the same. He remained in Canada six years, during half of that period holding an important office under the Government. In 1855 he left the Dominion and came to this State, settling in Washtenaw County. He had a fine clothing store and employed several men, actively carrying on business fourteen years. From Ann Arbor he removed to Chelsea, where he kept a similar establishment three and one-half years, and whence he went to Fowlerville, Livingston County, there to remain permanently. He did business there thirteen years, then left his family and went to Aberdeen, S. Dak., and established a merchant tailoring store and took up three hundred and twenty acres of land here. He made some improvements during the three years of his sojourn. He was a self-made man, whose strength of mind

and character gave him prominence in the community. He was one of the first to enlist in the Civil War and he spent four years in the service of the country, and received a wound in the left leg, from which he suffered somewhat until death. He held various positions of trust and was an active and official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his widow is a devoted member. He died August 25, 1885.

The subject of these paragraphs was born in Washtenaw County, June 22, 1862, and having good advantages acquired a thorough business education. He worked on a farm about a year, receiving \$8 per month, and then started to learn the printer's trade, and for the labors of a twelve-month he got his board and \$50. He next entered the employ of D. R. Glenn & Co., general merchants at Fowlerville, and from them went to E. D. Drew, another general dealer, working for each firm about a year. In 1882 Mr. Ruel learned telegraphy, and until 1886 he was employed by the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad as Station Agent and operator at Fowlerville and Brighton Beach. Following this he was at Lyons and other points, and then bought the interest of L. L. Trask in the banking-house of Webber & Trask, in Pewamo, and located here.

Mr. Ruel has been President of the village two terms, and is now Township Treasurer. As a public servant he is capable and painstaking, and his honesty is not called in question. Beside his bank stock he has a comfortable dwelling and one hundred acres of land, and an interest in other out-lying property. His home is under the care of a competent housekeeper and pleasant companion, who became his wife in 1885. Prior to that time she was known as Miss Alice J. Amsden, she being a daughter of Capt. A. A. Amsden, a gentleman most highly esteemed by all who know him, residing in Lyons, Ionia County. Mrs. Ruel is not only fully capable of the management of her home, but is also a sweet singer, an excellent pianist, and is of marked ability as an elocutionist, being a devoted lover of these arts. She has since her marriage continued her study of them, believing in one's making use of such talents as they may possess, and that the wife

should not, when possible, allow the duties of home, and never those of society, to so infringe upon her time, but that some attention may be given to the cultivation of the mind, thereby enabling her more to assist the one who has chosen her for his companion. Mr. Ruel is a Mason and Odd Fellow and casts his vote with the Democratic party.



BENJAMIN F. SCHULTZ. The father of the subject of this sketch has large manufacturing interests, and no one can scan the pages of his life without at once determining the fact that he must be a man of wonderful executive abilities. This gentleman manages the extensive milling business of his father. This necessarily calls into action all the industry, perseverance and ingenuity with which the Creator has endowed him.

Our subject was born at Ann Arbor, Mich., November 15, 1861, and is the son of J. F. and Christina (Shafer) Schultz, who are natives of Germany. J. F. Schultz, the father of our subject, came with his parents from Germany at the early age of seven years. In 1839 they located at Ann Arbor, where his father followed the trade of coopering. Mrs. J. F. Schultz came to Michigan with her parents when she was fourteen years of age. The family settled at Howell. To the parents of our subject twelve children were born, nine of whom are living. Mr. Schultz is engaged in the manufacture of barrels and staves at Lansing. Our subject lived in Ann Arbor until six years of age, when his parents removed to Belleville, and two years later to Lansing. Here he attended a school which was called Bartlett's Business College, where he took a thorough course of education. He then engaged with his father in carrying on a general store at Coral, Montcalm County, this State, where his father once owned a mill and store. The son soon bought out this store and managed it two years, remaining there seven years. He afterward engaged in the stave business, which he still continues, and also has interests at Vesta-

burg, Montcalm County. In this place he manages two mills although he resides at Portland, to which he came in 1887. Mr. Schultz, the father of our subject, owns a mill and some lands at this place and his son is the purchasing agent of five mills, which are located respectively at Belding, Middleton, Vestaburg and Portland.

The subject of this sketch took for his wife Eva M. Hopkins. She is a daughter of Marcus D. Hopkins, of Detroit, Mich. The marriage took place at the home of the bride December 24, 1881. One child, Elsie Gertrude, blessed this happy union. Mr. Schultz is a member of the Masonic Order, Chapter Degree, Royal Arcanum. He is a Republican in politics and is earnest in his political preferences. His father was Mayor of Lansing and has been prominent in the politics of this place. Although Mr. Schultz may not have gained high places in political ranks he has probably served his country efficiently by attending strictly to his large business details with energy and fidelity.



AMBROSE G. SMITH, a first-class farmer, has one of the well-improved and well-regulated estates of Ionia County. His property consists of two hundred and eighty acres on section 19, Ronald Township, which includes the homestead on which his father located during the '50s. The buildings on the land include a substantial, two-story farm house, good barns, granaries and sheds, and Mr. Smith is carrying on general farming in such a way as to secure a good income. He is descended from old New York families and was born in Cayuga County, that State, June 21, 1844. His parents were Daniel G. and Lucetta (Sperry) Smith, both of whom were born in the same county as the son. Very soon after their marriage they came to this State, and for some eight years made their home in Clinton County. They then came to the farm now owned by their son Ambrose. They had five children, our subject being the eldest.

The subject of this biographical notice was an infant about twelve months old when brought to

this State, and at the age of eight years he returned to New York, where he spent four years at school. He then came back to his home and took up his work with his father on the homestead he is now operating. He did not establish a home of his own until after he was of age, but in 1869 was married to Evangelia Dixon, who was born in Detroit August 31, 1848. She was bereft of her mother's love and care when but an infant, and for a time was cared for by her mother's sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have five children, whose respective names are: Herbert L., Bertha L., Mabel, Carrie and Lucetta. The eldest daughter is now Mrs. Grover. The younger daughters are at home, and the son is pursuing his studies in Ionia. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are among the highly-respected members of the community, both being earnest, humble Christians and excellent neighbors. They hold membership in the Christian Church, and Mr. Smith holds the office of Deacon.

REV. HENRY MARSH, pastor of the Congregational Church in Edmore, is the pioneer minister of that denomination here. He came in May, 1880, the year after a class was organized with five members, and during the decade that has passed has built up a good congregation, organized a society at Six Lakes, and at the same time prosecuted the work that has resulted in securing to Edmore a good house of worship. During the first year of his residence here he also had oversight of the Millbrook charge, and the second year had Lake View. Since that time Edmore and the vicinity has been under his care, but as this neighborhood has increased in population his work has been confined within a smaller circuit.

Mr. Marsh was born in Eckford, Calhoun County, September 17, 1842, and was reared on a farm there. He attended the district schools and when eighteen years old began a preparatory course, continuing his studies at odd times until 1865, when he entered the senior preparatory class, and completed his preparation for college. The next year

he began his work in the classical course, and after four years of study was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He then spent one year in New Haven, Conn., studying theology in the Yale Seminary. Prior to this he had given a short time to teaching, and he now took up the work of instruction at Olivet, this State, making Latin, mathematics and the natural sciences a specialty.

After teaching a year Mr. Marsh became a student in the school of Theology at Oberlin, Ohio, and in 1873 was honored with the degree of Bachelor of Theology. The same year that of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by Olivet College. He next took a post-graduate course at Andover Theological Seminary, after which, in December, 1874, he was chosen pastor of a church in Somerset, Hillsdale County, this State. He was ordained there April 23, 1875, and remained until the spring of 1877, when he went to Kalamo, remaining with the charge there three years. At the termination of that period he located in Edmore, being the first Congregational minister that had made a permanent settlement here. The little band of believers had no place in which to worship that they could call their own, and Mr. Marsh at once began to solicit subscriptions for a church. Ere long a house of worship was put up and the society felt that it had a name and a place in the world.

Mr. Marsh is of English ancestry. His father was Joel B. Marsh, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and his grandfather, Isaac Marsh, was born in Connecticut. The father came to Marshall, Mich., about 1836, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He subsequently bought Government land four miles from the city, built a log house and improved three hundred and sixteen acres. He died in 1850, at the early age of forty-three years, his death resulting from injuries occasioned by falling from a barn he was building. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Eliza Ingersoll and was the daughter of a miller living in Ontario County, N. Y. She made a second marriage, becoming the wife of Charles M. Bordwell, a native of New York and a pioneer of Eckford, and they remained on the farm there until his death, in September, 1864. Some months later the widow sold the farm and

removed to Olivet in order to give her children better educational opportunities. In 1889 she went to California and is now living in Los Angeles with a son; she is seventy-three years of age. Her religious membership is in the Congregational Church at Olivet.

At the bride's home in Vermontville, Eaton County, September 17, 1874, the Rev. Mr. Marsh was married to Miss Anna M. Benedict, daughter of the Rev. N. W. Benedict. This lady was born May 1, 1844, and completed her educational training at Olivet College, from which she was graduated in 1865. Few indeed have had better opportunities than she or have broader culture. She is not only thoroughly educated, but she possesses a fluency of speech that enables her to use her knowledge as many cannot. She was a teacher in her Alma Mater for six years, and has ever taken great interest in school work. In the field of labor of her husband she has been of great assistance to him, organizing the Ladies' Society and acting as Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and by her sympathy and tact doing much to hold the congregation together in bonds of love and attracting to it people from all circles. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have two daughters, named respectively, Mary and Edna. These misses are being carefully guided and thoroughly schooled in that which will develop their better natures and mental powers.

The father of Mrs. Marsh was born in Connecticut and was graduated from Williams College in Massachusetts, and Auburn Theological Seminary. He entered the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, but in 1843, having come to Vermontville, this State, he took charge of a Congregational society, over which he was pastor seven years. For ten years he carried on the Vermontville Academy and he organized the Presbyterian Churches at Oneida and Sunfield. He removed to Olivet in order to give his children better educational facilities, and for six years was Secretary and Treasurer of the college. He then returned to Vermontville, which he made his permanent home, dying there in October, 1875, aged sixty-eight years. For years prior to that sad event he acted as home missionary and in the annals of the church his work is recorded as that of one of its

most efficient members. He owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he employed students who wished to make their own way, thus furnishing them means by which to pay their college expenses. His wife was Almira Bennett, a native of Massachusetts and a woman of rare qualities of mind and heart. She lived to a good old age, dying in 1890. Her father was Mason Bennett, who was born in the Bay State, lived for a few years in Batavia, N. Y., and then removed to Janesville, Wis., where he was a merchant until his death.

Mr. Marsh has always manifested a deep interest in the educational advancement of the people and for six years he has been School Trustee. A man of broad and liberal mind, thorough schooling, and studious, thoughtful nature, he is well versed in matters of general interest, as well as more scholarly. In manners he is pleasant and affable, while his character is above reproach. For years he was identified with the Republican party, with the principles of which he is still in sympathy, although he has recently identified himself with the Prohibition element, believing that thus he can make his temperance work most effectual.



MARION L. SMITH, a well-known horse-breeder of Ionia County, makes his home in the county seat, where he has other business interests besides that of his stables. He has a love for horses and a natural aptitude for knowledge concerning them, which led him after many years spent in other work, to give his attention largely to handling them. The horse that has made his stable prominent among other similar places is "Pilot Montgomery," one of the most noted sires in the country. Mr. Smith owns a number of other horses of the famous strain. He has earned the name of a square-dealing horseman and one who has thorough knowledge of the characteristics of equines and the peculiarities that distinguish the breeds.

Mr. Smith was born in Pennsylvania in 1844 and is a son of the late Lewis D. Smith, who died

in Ionia in 1888. The father was a prominent citizen, who held many offices of trust and always to his credit. The widowed mother of our subject is still living. The son was reared on a farm and at an early age entered a banking house in Ionia, where he remained until, on the retirement of his father, who had been Postmaster eight years, he was appointed to the position. He was in charge of the office four years, then his brother founded the firm of Smith & Smith, booksellers and stationers, which is still carrying on business and is one of the most flourishing in central Michigan.

Our subject next turned his special attention to the duties of a landlord and for several years ran a hotel. The bent of his nature was at last followed and he entered upon his present occupation. Mr. Smith has been twice married, first in 1873 and for the second time in 1876. He has three children, named respectively, Burt M., Ada F. and Blanche. In politics Mr. Smith is a stalwart Republican.



REV. ALFRED CORNELL, for many years pastor of the Baptist Church at Ionia, was born in Madison County, N. Y., July 7, 1813. He is a son of Alfred and Nancy (Caldwell) Cornell, natives of Rhode Island, whence they came to Oneida County, N. Y., and journeyed to Michigan 1833, a few months after the Dexter settlement was made. The Dexters arrived here the last of May and Mr. Cornell, a cousin of Mr. Dexter, reached here November 9, of the same year. There were no near neighbors and not a house in Ionia except the four occupied by Samuel Dexter, Erastus Yeomans, Darius Windsor and Edwin Giles; and on the other side was one house occupied by Oliver Arnold.

Alfred was twenty years of age at the time of his first coming to Michigan, and the next year went to Grand Rapids, finding but two houses on the way there, and those occupied by traders. While at the Rapids he found but one family, that of Joel Guild. In getting to and from trading points Mr. Cornell encountered many difficulties. At the age of twenty-three he married Amanda,

daughter of Judge Yoemans, the wedding taking place in December, 1836. She became the mother of six children, all of whom have passed away and she herself died in Ohio, February 20, 1862.

In 1841 Mr. Cornell went to Colby University, at Hamilton, N. Y., to study for the ministry and remained there for three years. He graduated in 1844 and was settled as pastor over the church at Macedon, Wayne County, N. Y. After remaining there for two years the Ionia people pleaded that he should become the pastor of the Baptist Church here, to which he consented. After seventeen years' service in Ionia he responded to a call to a church in Norwalk, Ohio, and went there in January, 1861, remaining there for three years. After going to Norwalk he was tendered the Chaplaincy of the Twenty-First Michigan Infantry.

Mr. Cornell returned to Ionia County in April, 1866, and preached here for two years. After this he resigned and went to Smyrna, this county, where he was stationed for three years, and then went to Portland for five and one-half years. He was elected Chaplain of the Michigan House of Correction in 1877, and held this position for four years until his health failed, on account of which he resigned. He spent some two years in Polo and some time in Carson City after which he returned to Ionia and has since lived a retired life. His second marriage was with Katie Mason and occurred January 23, 1863, in Ripley, N. Y.



MRS. ANN E. WHITE. For thirty years this lady has been living in Ionia County, and she and her family have been and are connected in various ways with the affairs of this part of the commonwealth. She is carrying on a farm on section 35, Lyons Township, and is successfully operating a valuable piece of property. She has one hundred acres of land so well improved as to command a good price, and stocked with first-class machinery, good flocks and herds; and with its barns and granaries holding a goodly supply of grain and fodder. Her residence is a squ^{are},

two-story frame house, well furnished and abounding in good cheer for mind and body. Mrs. White is a well-read lady, who has added to her original education, and kept herself well informed regarding general topics and matters of common interest. She possesses good business ability and pleasant, agreeable manners, with a character of genuine worth.

Mrs. White was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., July 24, 1827. Her father, Eldad Jackson, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., in March, 1790, and reared in Meredith Township. He married Olive Lawrence, who was a native of the same neighborhood as himself, and whose good qualities were thoroughly known to him. Their last years were spent in Newfield, N. Y., where the wife died in 1835, and the father in 1863, the latter being seventy-three years old. He was a Colonel in the War of 1812, and two of his brothers were officers during the same conflict. Of the eleven children born to her parents Mrs. White and three brothers are the only survivors. She was reared in her native place and acquired her schooling there.

The first marriage of our subject was solemnized April 4, 1861, when she was wed to Henry Bartow. This gentleman was born and reared in the Empire State, and acquired a liberal education. His name is well known in Ionia County, of which he was Probate Judge, and from which he was sent to the Legislature, serving during the time of the revision of the State Constitution. He came West in 1836, and was therefore one of the earliest settlers in Ionia County. He was ever a liberal contributor to laudable enterprises and was active in church work, being a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church. He died December 25, 1862, leaving a memory that is held in honor by all who knew him. His political allegiance was given to the Republican party. The result of his union with our subject was the birth of a daughter, Carrie, who makes her home with her mother. She was born January 18, 1862. Mr. Bartow by a previous marriage was the father of a son, Benjamin H., who is a well-known lawyer in Portland, this State.

The gentleman who became the second husband of our subject was John L. White, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y., in 1832, but was reared

in this State, to which he was brought when but four years old. During the Civil War he was in the service of his country four years. He first enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry, and at the expiration of a three years' term he signed the muster roll of Company A, Eighth Michigan Infantry. He was discharged after the war closed, receiving his papers at the city of Atlanta, Ga. Hardship and exposure had affected his health, and he was never again as strong as he had been before entering the army. He was identified with the Grand Army Post at Portland. The date of his decease was April 1, 1885. Mrs. White has an adopted son, Martin L., who is now in his twentieth year. He was taken by his foster mother when three weeks old, and has been the object of tender care. Although a German by birth and parentage he is not able to speak his mother tongue, but knows only the language of his foster mother. He is still with her and renders her much aid in carrying on her business.



JOHN O. WILLIAMS belongs to a family of honorable and patriotic record, both the father and grandfather having served their country in the army, and his brother, the Hon. E. R. Williams, being one of the most influential men in Ionia County. The subject of this sketch, who so worthily represents this fine family has a good farm on section 16, North Plains Township, Ionia County. He is the son of John A. and Patience (Jenks) Williams, and was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, March 16, 1829. Further notice of the ancestry and family history of Mr. Williams will be found in the sketch of his brother, the Hon. E. R. Williams, in another part of this volume.

John O. is the eldest child of his father's family, and was only two years of age when he came to Michigan. His first schooling was in Oakland County, Bloomfield Township. When he reached his majority he began work for himself. His marriage took place in New York State in 1857. His bride was Marian Abbey, born in New York, Au-

gust 23, 1830. Her parents, Reuben and Marian (Hoag) Abbey, spent their lives in New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Williams made their first home where they now reside, but this home was within log walls and covered by a roof only 20x28 feet. This humble edifice still remains upon the place, a pleasant reminder of the happy days of early married life. An ox-team and a plow constituted his outfit. His farm was thickly covered with heavy timber. He has now two hundred and twelve acres of well-improved land, and a fine brick house which he built in 1882 at a cost of \$3,400. To this beautiful residence the friends of this pleasant household are cordially welcomed, and in their family circle their neighbors are often gathered for social greeting. Their three sons all reside in the county—Charles E., Frank O. and Albert J. Mr. William's first vote was cast in 1840. He is a Democrat in his principles, and has always voted that ticket. Although he does not seek public honors he has willingly filled several positions of responsibility. For twenty years he has been on the Township School Board and has been Highway Commissioner for some time.



WILLIAM ALDERMAN. Michigan owes much to those men who, after fighting their way through the hardships of pioneer life, and putting themselves and their families in comfortable circumstances have used their means to erect buildings which are a credit to their county. Those who have thus wisely placed improvements and buildings either public or private on the farms or in the growing villages, have largely forwarded the interests of their locality, and have thus attracted thither settlers of enterprise and wealth. Among those who have thus aided in the upbuildings of Ionia County, is the subject of this sketch. He first built up his own place. His present residence, a fine two-story house, cost \$3,500 and he has spent altogether in buildings upon his farm some \$5,000. He has also done much for Gratiot County, having expended within the last two years

over \$2,000 in buildings on his land in that county.

The subject of this life history, who resides on section 5, Lyons Township, Ionia County, was born in Ancaster, Canada, November 13, 1825. His father, Bucklin Alderman, a mason by trade, was born in Connecticut in August, 1799. He was reared and received his education in New York. His wife was in girlhood Mary Sterling, of New York, born in Onondaga County, in November, 1801. Their marriage took place in that county in 1818, after which they went to Canada. Here Mr. Alderman engaged in the mercantile business and afterward pursued the same line of work in Detroit, Mich., where he emigrated in 1836. His death took place in Detroit, May 27, 1838, and his good wife survived him, and in 1883 completed her four-score years and one.

Mr. and Mrs. Bucklin Alderman were the worthy parents of nine children, most of whom have passed away from earth. Their son, William, was twelve years old when he came to Michigan. His first schooling was in Canada, and he had good advantages in Detroit. After the death of his father the family removed to Highland, Oakland County. Here the boy took charge of the farm and remained with his mother, although he worked for a while in a store in Milford. One year and a half was spent in Rochester, N. Y., clerking in a store. He then returned to Highland, and took charge of his mother's farm. Later he entered the general merchandise business at Milford, in which he continued for three years. Selling out he went back on the old homestead, but soon traded the farm for a stock of goods in Lyons, Ionia County. The first marriage of William Alderman took place January 27, 1851. His bride was Emily Green, a native of New York. They went at once to live on the old homestead, and remained there for one year. He then traded eighty of his one hundred and sixty acres for a carriage factory at Milford, and ran that business in connection with his farm work. He did well in this business and after about six months was able to buy back the land he had sold and somewhat later he sold out the carriage factory.

Mr. Alderman traded his farm in 1860 for a stock of goods in Lyons, whither he removed and carried on mercantile business until 1864. He then

exchanged a half-interest in the store for a farm on section 36, Lyons Township. After this he made a sale of the other half of the store, and went to reside on a farm in North Plains Township, where he had bought eighty-three acres. He owned at one time two hundred acres of land in North Plains Township. He sold out this land and bought in Danby Township a farm of two hundred and five acres. He then bought eighty-seven acres in North Plains Township; sold that and bought fifty-one acres where he now resides.

The second matrimonial union of our subject was celebrated July 9, 1865. He was then united to Mrs. Emily R. Hinsdell, widow of Moses B. Hinsdell. She was born in Lafayette Township, Onondaga County, N. Y., April 1, 1826, and was the only daughter of Isaac and Eunice (Rust) Kee-ler. The first marriage of Mr. Alderman gave him two daughters: Ella G., Mrs. Frank E. Ward; and Emily, Mrs. Giles Craindall. The subject of this sketch at one time owned nine hundred and eighty acres in Michigan, but he has disposed of much of this and now has only four hundred and eighteen acres. He built his present two-story residence same few years ago, and it is considered one of the best farmhouses in the county. He is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge, No. 37, at Lyons.



JOHAN M. BREINING, a retired farmer and old settler of Michigan, now resides on twelve acres of finely improved land within the city limits of Edmore, Montcalm County. His parents, Jacob and Barbara (Reidemiller) Breining, both natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, came to America in 1836 and located in Freedom Township, Washtenaw County, Mich. The father was a cooper by trade, and followed that line of work in the old country, but here he took a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in the forest and proceeded to clear it of timber. Both parents

resided on this farm, living honest, conscientious lives, and being members of the Lutheran Church until they were called from earth.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest of eight children, and was born in Geilsten, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1829. He was seven years old when they left the old home, and undertook the passage from Havre to New York. They were upon the ocean thirty-three days. In 1854 he began to work for himself and bought sixty acres in Lodi Township, Washtenaw County. Having cultivated this land for a few years, he sold it and removed to Adrian, where he farmed until 1865, when he went to Douglas County, Ill. In the year 1868 he removed to Omaha, Neb., working on a farm and in a gristmill until 1877. In February of that year he came to Ingham County, this State, and worked near Okemos, and then bought an improved ten acres adjoining the Agricultural College, and did teaming for the college. In 1887 he took a contract to carry the mail for four years between the college and Lansing, but sold out this contract in 1890, and on October 15th of that year came to Edmore and bought the Whittlesey place, a well-improved place having good buildings upon it. Here he carries on general farming on a small scale.

Mr. Breining's first wife was also a native of Wurtemberg. They were married in October, 1859, in Washtenaw County, where Mrs. Breining died after having become the mother of three children—Jacob, James and Mary. The present Mrs. Breining is the daughter of Jacob Koch, who was a farmer of Wurtemberg, Germany, whence he came to America in 1854 and located in Fredonia, N. Y. Here as above stated, his daughter Regina, was united to the subject of this sketch. Mr. Koch died in Lodi Township at a very advanced age. His wife died in Freedom Township. They were members of the Lutheran Church, and were the parents of six children, of whom the wife of our subject was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Kirkentellinsfurth, Germany, January 20, 1837. After her emigration with her parents to this country, she supported herself in New York City. She is the mother of nine children, six of whom are living: Lena, Frederick, Katie, Ella, Minnie and George. They are devout members of the Luth-

eran Church, and Mr. Breining is a Democrat in principle, and casts his vote with the party. He is universally respected for his integrity, and forwards any movement that will enhance the prosperity of the township.



DAVID KELLEY, M. D., is a well-known physician and surgeon located at Lyons, Ionia County, and closely connected with all that goes to aid in its development and the elevation of its residents. He is a native of Tompkins County, N. Y., where he was born in 1816, and is the only child of John and Nancy (Bailey) Kelley, who were born in Wales and New York respectively. The father was a ship carpenter and caulker, which occupation he followed some thirty years. In 1840 he removed to Michigan and made Adrian his home, and there he pursued his trade until smitten by the illness which caused his death in 1852.

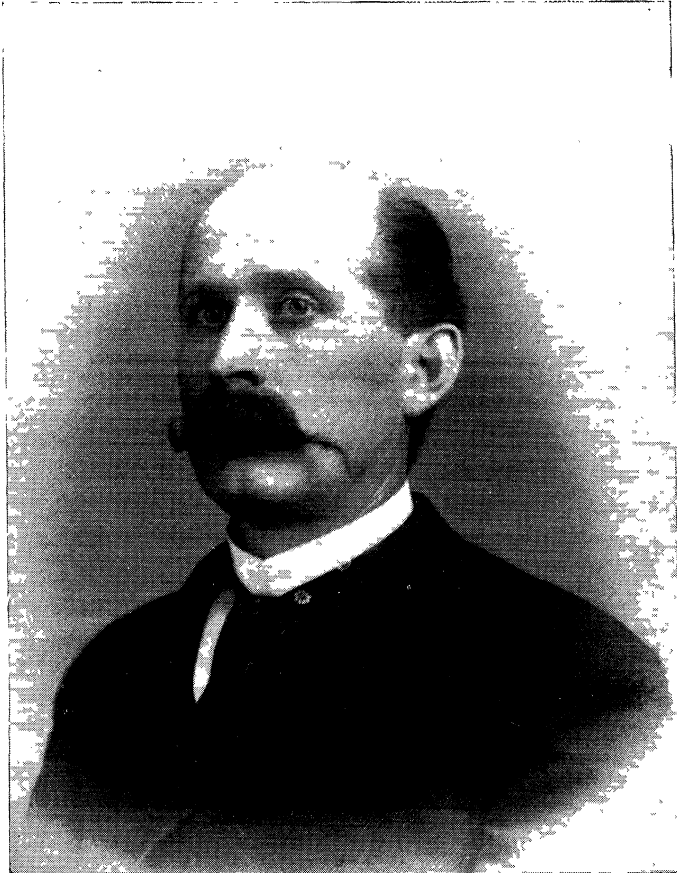
The boyhood of Dr. Kelley was spent in his native county at the town of Newfield, and there he began the study of medicine, for which he had a decided predilection. He took his first course of lectures at Geneva (N. Y.) College, and afterward went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was granted a diploma after the season of 1844-45. He at once opened an office in La Porte, Ohio, and from there went to Adrian, Mich., coming to Lyons from the latter. He brought a stock of goods with him and opened a drug-store, managing it while carrying on professional work until 1861 when he sold out, feeling that other duties called him.

The attempts upon the life of the nation roused Dr. Kelley to a fervor of patriotism that led him to join others in raising a full regiment, eleven hundred men, in Will County, Ill., and he went South as Captain of a company. During his army experience he was in Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and Louisiana. The first heavy engagement in which he participated was Stone River, where for three days he was under fire. He then rode after Bragg eight hundred miles and altogether saw much

of the varied phases of a campaign. After thirty months of service he resigned his commission on account of a disease that afflicted him. He was cared for in the camp and for a time given up to die by his attending physician, but he recovered, although never fully, but is subject to recurrences of the attack to this day.

Upon his return to the North Dr. Kelley resumed his practice and the drug business in Lyons, and here he has remained, adding to his reputation and extending his possessions. He has one of the finest business buildings in the place, a brick structure 24x86 feet with two stories and cellar. In this building he now carries a stock of groceries, notions and wall paper, as well as drugs. He has also built the handsomest residence in town, the material being variegated sandstone, and the grounds surrounded by an iron fence; it occupies a commanding situation, whence a fine view of the surrounding country is had. Dr. Kelley has owned considerable land and several houses in the village, and at Carson City he has a third interest in a block that contains two stores and a bank. One of the stores is run by him and his son-in-law, George W. Cadwell, they having purchased the stock of drugs and general goods in 1889. The establishment is under the personal oversight of Mr. Cadwell.

In 1837 Dr. Kelley was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Horton, who departed this life June 11, 1890. She was a daughter of Joseph Horton and was of English lineage. She belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church and was universally respected by her acquaintances for her fine character, kind-heartedness and womanly acquirements. She was the mother of two children—John A. and Frances E., wife of G. W. Cadwell. The son was formerly engaged in the drug business with his father, and as a Union soldier he served from the beginning of the war until the close. He was in twenty-seven battles and was wounded four times, the last occasion being at Stone River, when a ball entered the shoulder and passed through the lung and down to the middle of the back. It was removed by his father. The young man was a Lieutenant and then a Captain. He died in Lyons in 1877, leaving a widow, formerly Miss Margaret S. Henderson, daughter of Judge Henderson, of Illi-



WILLIAM BELL, M D.
President, Michigan State Eclectic Medical Society.

nois and three children—Hugh D., Bessie M. and Nellie J.

Mr. Caldwell, son-in-law of Dr. Kelley, is a native of New York and came West when twelve years old. He has been engaged in mercantile pursuits most of his mature years, and for nine years was thus occupied in Portland, Ionia County. He went to Carson City in 1888 as cashier of the Carson City Bank, but ere many months had joined Dr. Kelley in their present enterprise. He is a man of good business qualifications and excellent character.

The professional reputation of Dr. Kelley is an enviable one, and his skill and knowledge are held at their proper valuation. A student from his early years, he has not been content with the wisdom that won him his diploma, but has read and investigated from time to time and increased his store of technical knowledge and ability to diagnose and treat diseases. He is known far and near, respected and loved, and numbered among the most worthy citizens, who are active in promoting the prosperity of the town and elevating the status of its people. He belongs to the Masonic order and the Sons of Temperance, and always votes the Republican ticket.



WILLIAM BELL, M. D. The village of Smyrna, Ionia County, is the home of no more intelligent man than Dr. Bell, who is carrying on a very successful practice here. The profession in which he is engaged is one that taxes the energies of man to their utmost capacity and calls for a display of judgment unparalleled in any other pursuit. Whatever mistakes may be made in other professions can be rectified, but in this an error is so likely to be fatal that more care is needed in coming to a decision than would otherwise be the case. The man who can carry on medical work successfully during a term of years is certainly deserving of that which he receives—the grateful love of his patients and their friends.

Dr. Bell is of Scotch-American lineage, and bears the name of his paternal grandfather, William Bell, who was a civil engineer of considerable note in his native country. The father of the Doc-

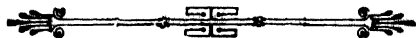
tor was John Bell, who came to the United States at the age of twenty-one and entered the employ of Henry Howard in Canandaigua, N. Y. There he married Amna T. Taylor, subsequently removing to Gorham, but later returning to Canandaigua and settling on the beautiful lake of that name, at a place still known as Bell's Point. Here he and his wife remained until death, she passing away in 1878 and he two years later. Their family consisted of six children, named respectively, Isabella, William, Joseph, Jennie, John and Mary.

William Bell was born May 1, 1844, in the township of Gorham, Ontario County, N. Y., but spent his boyhood on the shores of Lake Canandaigua, going to school and working on the farm. Being desirous of obtaining a higher education, he hired out when fourteen years old and earned money with which to pay his expenses at school. He entered the renowned Canandaigua Academy, then under charge of Prof. N. T. Clark, Ph. D., and finally joined the teacher's class and was graduated at the age of eighteen years, after which he began teaching for the purpose of replenishing his funds to the end that he might defray his expenses through medical college.

Dr. Bell was quite young when the Civil War began and did not enter the army for some time, but in December, 1863, he enlisted in Company H, Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, for three years or during the war. He went through the campaign led by Gen. Grant under the cry of "on to Richmond," actively participating in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom and Ream's Station; bearing the flag of his regiment through a portion of that "memorable summer," notably at Ream's Station, where, on the evening of August, 25, the organization lost three hundred and sixty-six men, being practically surrounded as by a circle of fire. Shortly afterward he was taken sick and sent to the hospital. Upon convalescence he was appointed to a position in a hospital near Washington, D. C., where he remained until the close of the war. He then resumed his medical studies under Dr. J. A. Hawley of Canandaigua, N. Y., graduating in the spring of 1867.

(For sixteen years Dr. Bell carried on a successful practice in his native State, being located at Seneca Castle from 1871 to 1883. During the year 1880 he attended medical lectures in New York City and again received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He came to Smyrna, this State, upon leaving Seneca in '83 and spent the following winter in attendance upon a post-graduate course of lectures in Chicago, Ill. He was a member of the various medical societies in his native State and elsewhere, and he is a medical writer of considerable ability, contributing to some of the important journals of the country.) As his health is not rugged he has felt obliged to decline important positions which he has thrice been urged to accept and to confine himself to private practice and study. (At Detroit June 19, 1878, he was elected to permanent membership in the National Eclectic Medical Association. At a meeting of the Michigan State Eclectic Medical and Surgical Society held in Jackson May 18, 1887, he was elected President and was re-elected for a second term.) S B

The wife of Dr. Bell was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary E. Hoppough and their marriage rites were solemnized in Smyrna June 29, 1870.) She sympathizes with him in his intellectual pursuits, looks carefully after his comfort, and has the kindly nature that is manifested in charitable deeds wherever woman's hand is needed. Dr. Bell is and always has been a Republican in politics. (In his religious views he goes back to the pure and simple faith inculcated by the Divine Master himself,) disregarding many of the dogmas formulated by the theologians. Intelligent and well-read, his conversation is wise and full of wit, while his manners are agreeable, his temper admirable and his appearance that of a true gentleman.



REV. NORMAN L. OTIS. Few, if any of the residents of Montcalm County are more widely known and none more favorably than the subject of this biographical notice. For more than a score and a half of years his home has been on a tract in the western part of Bloomer Township, although when he became a

farmer he did not abandon the ministry, in which he had been successfully laboring. He was in the Methodist itineracy for a number of years, and traveled the Bloomer and other circuits carrying the gospel message over the sparsely settled districts. For four years he was pastor of the Congregational Church at Ithica, Gratiot County, and for ten years was pastor of the Congregational Church at Crystal, and during all this period he was improving and cultivating his farm in Bloomer. He chopped down the first tree on his land and has cleared one hundred and forty acres. The property is laid off into fields of convenient size, and he has substantial barns, graneries and sheds ample to accommodate all his stock, machinery and crops. Besides his own residence he has two houses for his help.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. Otis was a Revolutionary soldier and was wounded while fighting his country's battles. He cast his first vote for Washington. His maternal grandfather was the Rev. Abner Wright, a prominent Scotch Presbyterian minister in Canada. His parents were Chester and Phebe (Wright) Otis, the former of whom was a farmer. They were living in Niagara County, N. Y., when the son was born April 12, 1834. When he was five years of age the family came to this State and located in Washtenaw County, but after a residence of four years removed to Calhoun County, near Albion. There a small farm was cleared and there he attended school in winter and worked on the farm summers.

Mr. Otis took an academical course at Albion College and then a theological course preparatory to engaging in the ministry. He was ordained at the age of twenty-five years and gave his attention exclusively to the work which he chose until he was some thirty-four years old, when he took possession of his present farm and divided his time between tilling the soil and preaching the gospel. During the Civil War he was Chaplain of the Eighth Michigan Cavalry about one year and did much as a recruiting officer previous to being Commissioned Chaplain. He has been the means of doing great good in this part of the country, not only in preaching and teaching, but presenting a living example of brotherly love, generous-hearted charity and Christian faith. He has helped to build churches and parsonages, has worked arduously for the cause of education, and been a staunch advocate of temperance.

In April, 1855, the Rev. Mr. Otis was married to Elizabeth C. Morgan, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland. When she came to America she found her first home in Ashland County, Ohio, and subsequently came to this State and was living in Hastings at the time of her marriage. She died in July, 1863. She had borne three children—Clark C., Frank and Frederick B., the second of whom died in infancy. Clark was born March 6, 1856, and is now pastor of the First Congregational Church of Springfield, Ill. Frederick was born January 7, 1863, was graduated from Olivet College, and was taking the theological course at Yale when he was called from time to eternity. He died in November, 1889, of hemorrhage of the lungs. He had already preached two summers with marked success and gave promise of much usefulness. A second marriage was made by the Rev. Mr. Otis in the winter of 1864, his bride being Miss Ann M. Copp, of Portville, N. Y., and daughter of Dr. J. M. Copp. This union has been blessed by a daughter, Grace, whose natal day was July 12, 1866. She was graduated from the State Normal School at Ypsilanti after completing a literary and scientific course of study, and is now teaching in the public schools of St. Louis, Gratiot County.

Elder Otis is a staunch Republican and has been actively engaged in the local work of the party, usually attending the county conventions as a delegate, and sometimes going to the State conventions in a similar capacity. He has been urged to take a nomination for the legislature but so far has declined. He is an ardent advocate of mental culture, combined with physical training, and a strong supporter of manual labor and industrial colleges for the poor, and is identified with every project which is instituted for the public good. He is a close student and omnivorous reader, taking one daily and eight weekly newspapers, and corresponds for several of those sheets. In the advancement of the cause of education he has been especially interested, as has been shown by his having helped all his own children through colleges having a high standing. Among his personal characteristics is the social nature that makes him a happy host, and the benevolent spirit that causes him to help those who are in need, and his natural kindness of heart

is deepened by his high moral principles and the desire for the salvation of mankind that led him in in early life to enter the christian ministry. His friends are scattered far and wide, and many are they who wish for Heaven's richest blessings upon "the former clergyman of West Bloomer," as he is familiarly known.



ALBERT MEAD, a farmer of Ionia County, owns and occupies a tract of land on section 7, Orleans Township, where various arrangements have been made for the comfort of the residents. He was born in Cairo, N. Y., June 17, 1848, and is a son of William and Sarah (Post) Mead. His father was born in Connecticut and his mother in or near Cairo, N. Y., and in the latter place their marriage took place in 1847. Mrs. Mead was a daughter of Samuel H. and Selica (Vanfleet) Post. The union was blest by the birth of eight children, named respectively, William, Albert, Elizabeth, Mary, Alice, Edward, Wealthy and Charlie. William Mead accompanied his parents to New York when quite young and in that State he made his home until 1857, when he came to Michigan. He bought one hundred and ten acres of land in Orleans Township, Ionia County, but afterward disposed of ten acres. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, but gave his attention largely to farming. He died August 4, 1890. His widow still occupies the homestead.

Albert Mead remained with his parents, pursuing his studies and taking a greater part in the cultivation of the farm until he was twenty-two years of age. He then went into the lumber woods, where for thirteen years he pursued the arduous life of the workers there. In Palo, Montcalm County, in 1871, he was married to Wealthy Palmer, daughter of Joel and Lucy (Wing) Palmer, natives of New York. Their wedded life was brief, Mrs. Mead being called hence in 1873. She left a son John, who is with his father.

In Newaygo County the second marriage of Mr. Mead was celebrated, his bride being Miss Sarah J. Parker. The parents of this estimable lady are

William and Jane (Everington) Parker, natives of England, who took up their residence in Newaygo County in 1862 and still reside there. Mr. Parker has been engaged in farming. His children are Sarah J., William, Mary A., Joseph, George, Lucy and Annie. Mr. Mead votes the Democratic ticket. He pursues his course in life quietly, taking no part in public affairs, but giving his attention solely to his own interests and the simple duties of a good citizen.



MICAJAH DOUGLASS, the oldest resident of Ferris Township, Montcalm County, and proprietor of one of the finest farms in the county, resides on his place of three hundred and ninety acres, which is situated on sections 11, 12, 13 and 14. His father, Orlin Douglass, and his grandfather Asa, were both natives of Vermont, the latter being a millwright who removed to Pennsylvania and afterward to New York, living in both Steuben and Monroe Counties. He began the practice of medicine and was one of the best botanical doctors in the State, and finally died in Livingston County. His father was a Quaker from Scotland.

The father of our subject was married in Monroe County, N. Y., and there engaged in cooperating and farming in Rush Township, but later removed to Ontario County. In 1855 he located in Virgin Township, Kent County, Mich., where he continued farming until he retired from active work and died at Fallasburgh at the age of seventy years. He was a devoted Quaker, a strong Abolitionist and Republican. His wife, Mary Hunt, daughter of Nathan, a Massachusetts man and an early settler in Rensselaer County, N. Y., was born in that county and was also of Quaker training and British descent. She lived to be almost eighty years old and ended her days with her daughter in this county.

The subject of this sketch was born September 24, 1828, in Rush Township, Monroe County, N. Y. After he was eight years old he was denied the privilege of school except in winter. Upon reaching his majority he hired out upon a farm for two

years and then bought a sawmill which he operated for two and one-half years after which he worked out until the fall of 1854 and coming to Michigan entered three hundred and twenty acres of Government land in Ferris Township under the Graduation Act at seventy-five cents an acre. The township was one vast forest and not a settler in it. He located the second piece of land within its bounds and then went back to Fallasburgh and worked in the woods during the winter, hoping to undertake the subduing of his land in the spring, but he was taken sick with the fever and it was not until the fall of 1855 that he erected a rude log house with a "shake roof" upon his land.

On March 22, 1856, our subject moved into this humble home and began clearing his farm. He had to go to Ionia with an ox-team when he needed flour and provisions. He was considered the best shot in the vicinity, and as game was abundant, especially deer, he was easily supplied with venison. He was active in all matters to promote the growth of the township and was one of the petitioners for its first township meeting. He has now a spacious and commodious dwelling, several barns and other large outbuildings for stock, being better supplied with outbuildings and wind-mills than any other farmer in the township. He breeds standard and Hambletonian horses and owns "Mazeppa Chief" a horse of fine proportions and well known, having taken first money and premiums at fairs. He also breeds graded Jerseys and Shropshires and full-blooded Poland-China hogs.

Our subject was married on Christmas Day, 1855, to Louisa, daughter of Ebenezer Sherman, who was born in Fairport, N. Y., and died here, leaving five children. Her eldest, Lydia J., Mrs. F. J. Blair, lives at Elm Hall, and was the first white child born in Ferris Township; Flora I., Mrs. Stephens, of Ferris Township; Nellie A., Mrs. James Elliott, died at Elm Hall; Alona M. resides at home and Mary died when young.

Mr. Douglass' second marriage took place in Bloomer, March 3, 1872. He was then united with Mrs. Melvina Aldrich, a daughter of Royal Jacobs, a Vermont merchant and farmer who resided for a long while at Dryden, N. Y., and later removed to Fulton, Ill., and afterward to Savannah and later to

Morrison. After being a successful merchant in Illinois he removed to Denver, Col., where he engaged in milling and spent his last days. Mrs. Douglass' mother, Delight Jacobs, was a native of Massachusetts and died in St. Louis, Mich. Mrs. Douglass was born November 24, 1835, in Dryden, Tompkins County, N. Y., and when three years old removed to Illinois where she received her education and married Amasa Aldrich. By that marriage she has three children—Solon, Amasa and Emma D.

Mr. Douglass was chosen Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner at the first election following the organization of the township and he united in marriage the first couple who were ever joined in the township. Two years later he became Supervisor and has held that office for about ten years, besides being Township Clerk two years and Township Treasurer for several years. He is also Chairman of the School Board. He is a Free and Accepted Mason, of the Royal Arch Masons, and of the Patrons of Industry and is a demitted member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps and Eastern Star Lodge, and both are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Elm Hall. He is a staunch Republican in his politics and repeatedly a delegate to county and State conventions and is Chairman of the Township Republican Committee.



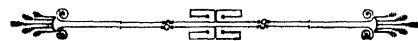
JAMES F. HAMMELL, a popular citizen of Ionia, Ionia County, was born in Brighton, Livingston County, Mich., August 13, 1859, and is the son of James and Mary (O'Hearn) Hammell, natives of Ireland and New York respectively. The O'Hearn family were of Irish extraction also. In 1836 James Hammell came to America, and proceeded directly to Michigan, where he still resides. His wife passed from earth March 2, 1871.

The parental family included seven children whose record is as follows: Peter, a farmer of Livingston County; Patrick J., the partner of our

subject in the tobacco business; William, a farmer in Livingston County; Anna, the wife of Edward C. Ryan, of Jackson, Mich.; Katie, who married J. S. Dunn and resides in Lapeer; James F., our subject; and Edward, at home. In his youth our subject received a fair education in the common-schools, and this he later utilized in teaching, which profession he followed four terms in Wash-tenaw and Livingston Counties.

In 1881 Mr. Hammell engaged in the grocery business in Williamson and was thus employed three years, after which he sold goods for the wholesale grocers, Beatty, Fitzsimons & Co., of Detroit, for two years. We next find him employed as a traveling salesman for the Globe Tobacco Company for three years, and in 1888 he embarked in the tobacco business in Ionia. He is still engaged in this business, in which he has met with more than ordinary success. In 1890 he put out five hundred thousand cigars, of which the principal brands are the "Jim Hammell" and "Hammell's Little Drummer." On January 1, 1891, after successfully carrying on the business alone, he formed a partnership with his brother for the purpose of increasing the business and expects to keep fifty hands busy.

Mr. Hammell was married August 13, 1883, to Miss Eleanor Williams, and to them have been born two children, James F., Jr., and George L. Mr. Hammell is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of various social orders.



WL. BARNES, M. D., was born in Ionia, Ionia County, September 3, 1862, and is the son of Dr. H. B. and Marietta (Lincoln) Barnes. He received a fair education in the common schools, and was graduated from the Ionia High School in 1880. Later he entered the University of Kentucky, and from the medical department of that institution was graduated with the class of 1884. Returning to his native place he immediately opened an office for the practice of his profession, and has since continued in the successful prosecution of the same.

On November 24, 1885, Dr. Barnes was united in marriage with Nellie Hackett, the daughter of Peter Hackett, and they have a pleasant home in Ionia. The Doctor is a Democrat in politics and has been Health Officer of the city since 1884. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, is a Knight Templar, belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Religiously he is a member of the First Baptist Church. He makes a specialty of the eye, being especially skilled in its treatment. He is a member of the Michigan State Medical Society, and of the Union Medical Society of Northern Michigan.

Dr. H. B. Barnes, father of our subject, was born in Geauga County, Ohio, August 15, 1834, and is the son of the Rev. Silas and Abby Barnes, natives of New York. The Rev. Silas Barnes was a minister in the Baptist Church and removed to Ohio in 1832, locating first in Jefferson and later in Char-don. In 1839 he came to Michigan, whence after preaching for ten years in Shiawassee, he returned to Ohio. After conscientiously and successfully

discharging the duties of several charges there he died in Ashtabula County in 1877, having followed the ministry about fifty years. Mrs. Barnes died in 1886, aged eighty-six years, her death also occurring in Ashtabula County, Ohio.

Three of the eight children born to the Rev. Silas Barnes and his wife are living, viz.: C. P. and J. B., who are engaged in the jewelry business in Louisville, Ky.; and Dr. H. B. The latter at the age of nineteen years went to Lake Superior, where he worked for a mining company three years. Returning to Ohio he commenced the study of medicine with McHenry & Barnes, in Napoleon. He studied in Ann Arbor and Louisville, and was graduated by the University in the latter city, in the medical department, in 1859. After residing in Saginaw County, this State, two years he located in Ionia, which he has since made his home. He married Marrietta Lincoln, July 18, 1861, and three children were born to them, as follows: W. L., of this sketch; O. T., who is studying law in Ann Arbor; and Silas H., at home.



INDEX.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

- A**
- Abbey, Edwin..... 398
Adams, John..... 23
Adams, John Q..... 39
Adgate, William..... 413
Alderman, William..... 838
Aldrich, J. A..... 498
Alger, Russell A..... 173
Allen, Capt. E. M..... 650
Allen, M. J..... 513
Allen, Thomas J..... 511
Allen, T. R..... 705
Allured, G. H..... 206
Alvord, M. W..... 457
Anderson, H. N..... 387
Anderson, Lewis..... 212
Andrews, William M..... 717
Arms, George W..... 417
Arnold, William D..... 609
Arthur, Chester A..... 99
Augst, W. S..... 301
- B**
- Badger, Samuel W..... 788
Baerd, Robert..... 473
Bagley, John J..... 157
Bailey, Herbert..... 399
Baird, S. H..... 632
Baldwin, Henry P..... 153
Bancroft, H. W..... 366
Bandfield, T. J..... 803
Banton, E. R..... 524
Barber, Austin..... 538
Barlow, Ira W..... 544
Barnard, Edward..... 514
Barnard, L. J..... 610
Barnard, W. S..... 367
Barnes, B..... 602
Barnes, W. L..... 845
Barry, John S..... 113
Bates, William S..... 357
Beach, H. J..... 412
Beadle, George E..... 549
- Begole, Josiah W..... 169**
Belding, Edward O..... 457
Bell, Hon. A. F..... 255
Bell, William, M. D..... 841
Bellamy, E. S..... 597
Bemis, C. L..... 787
Bemis, Prof. W. W..... 796
Benedict, Hon. J. M..... 295
Benedict, L. N..... 657
Benedict, O. M..... 478
Bennett, John S..... 700
Bentley, H. G..... 765
Berry, E. R..... 647
Billinger, Mathias..... 361
Bingham, Kinsley S..... 137
Bippley, John..... 328
Bishop, Noah..... 322
Blair, Austin..... 145
Blanchard, J. C..... 774
Biuehle, Frederick..... 784
Blumberg, C. W..... 438
Blumberg, W. H..... 544
Boice, Levi A..... 743
Bolte, Rev. Charles G..... 315
Bower, H. L., M. D..... 489
Bowser, William R..... 469
Braman, George..... 408
Breining, John M..... 839
Briggs, A. J..... 247
Broas, Levi..... 508
Brooks, William..... 519
Brower, Francis S..... 348
Brown, C. E..... 402
Brown, David J..... 827
Brown, Enoch..... 567
Brown, Hiram N..... 297
Brown, John M..... 483
Brown, William..... 388
Buchanan, James..... 75
Burdick, L. F..... 806
Burhans, W. P..... 470
Butler, Betsey P..... 372
Buttolph, Judson..... 558
- C**
- Call, A. T..... 742
Carbough, William..... 584
Case, Chauncey..... 195
Chase, Frank R..... 693
Chase, J. M..... 677
Cheney, Elisha T..... 282
Cheney, H. J..... 368
Clark, Frank W..... 600
Clark, George F..... 649
Clark, H. C..... 604
Clark, J. H..... 443
Clark, J. H..... 289
Clark, Norman..... 541
Cleveland, S. Grover..... 103
Clizbe, W. D..... 432
Coburn, H. G..... 793
Coe, William H..... 592
Coleman, D. E..... 648
Coleman, Eli A..... 634
Colwell, E. F..... 613
Comden, Rev. A. J..... 251
Compton, Rev. John..... 781
Conner, J. G., M. D..... 386
Conner, Thomas..... 621
Conner, Virgil G..... 380
Conner, Wilham J..... 458
Conry, James M..... 200
Converse, Mrs. M..... 769
Cooley, J. E..... 684
Cooper, George S..... 745
Cornell, Rev. A..... 836
Courter, J. Watson..... 232
Cowan, William S..... 440
Cowles, Charles S..... 346
Crane, A. A..... 405
Crapo, Henry H..... 149
Crawford, B. B..... 671
Croswell, Charles M..... 161
Crotser, L. S., M. D..... 681
Currie, Washington..... 517
Curtis, M. E..... 755
Curtiss, Sheldon R..... 427
Cutcheon, L. F..... 743
- D**
- Daniels, N. R..... 708
Daniels, Thomas..... 261
Dasef, Josephus..... 379
Davenport, G. W..... 461
Davis, Samuel..... 420
De Graw, William..... 729
De Hart, W. A..... 829
De Long, James B..... 568
Demorest, C. L..... 231
Densmore, C. E..... 492
Dick, John..... 712
Dickason, Isaac..... 348
Dikdine, Daniel..... 501
Dinsmore, George..... 559
Dodge, H. W..... 816
Dodson, Philip..... 229
Dodge, P. S..... 508
Dolph, Charles L..... 768
Dolph, L. H..... 494
Dolph, N. J..... 802
Doremus, Frank E..... 698
Douglass, George..... 194
Douglass, M..... 844
Drake, James B..... 479
Durkee, C. M..... 702
Dutt, Philip..... 598
- E**
- Eschliman, David..... 719
Eddy, Peleg..... 409
Eitelbuss, J. J..... 754
Eldred, O. J..... 808
Ellison, Jonathan..... 266
Ellsworth, S. L..... 540
English, David H..... 591
English, Jude C..... 687
Erdman, F. W..... 196
- F**
- Fargo, Jerome..... 773
Faude, G. F..... 442
Felch, Alpheus..... 117
Fellows, P. J..... 447
Ferguson, Lewis H..... 639
Feuerstein, Kaspar..... 620
Fillmore, Millard..... 67
Finch, Silas..... 731
Fisk, Frank..... 410

INDEX.

Fisk, M. J. 631
 Ford, C. H. 573
 Fortune, John W. 252
 Foster, John J. 345
 Foulks, Mrs. Jane. 237
 Fox, D. B. 590
 Fox, Anthony. 397
 Fox, Matthew H. 325
 France, Henry. 250
 French, A. S. 350
 Furney, Moses. 567

G

Gale, Paul. 641
 Gamber, W. P., M. D. 477
 Gardner, Joseph. 748
 Gardner, Sidney. 716
 Gardner, Thomas. 720
 Gardner, William H. 820
 Garfield, James A. 95
 Gates, David. 662
 Gates, Elias. 432
 Gates, Z. 339
 Gesler, A. E., M. D. 319
 Gibbs, J. H. 316
 Gibbs, L. H. 699
 Gibbs, Samuel A. 629
 Gibson, D. 818
 Gifford, E. P. 680
 Gilleo, C. C. 300
 Gillmore, N. H. 290
 Goble, Eliel T. 296
 Goodwin, Levi C. 791
 Goolthrite, Oscar. 362
 Gould, Nathan F. 307
 Gould, Reuben. 361
 Grabill, E. F. 376
 Grant, A. B., M. D. 691
 Grant, Ulysses S. 87
 Green, D. B. 699
 Green, H. R. 810
 Greenhoe, A. J. 371
 Greenly, William L. 121
 Groff, Sidney. 627
 Gunn, Isaac B. 377
 Gunn, J. S. 663

H

Hackett, Bernard. 554
 Haight, S. 369
 Hale, A. J. 574
 Hale, Charles W. 280
 Hall, Abner. 382
 Hall, Arthur N. 624
 Hall, Benjamin. 756
 Hall, Henry J. 745
 Hall, Joshua S. 425
 Hall, L. E. 617
 Hall, Thomas. 347
 Hallett, John W. 299
 Hammell, J. F. 815
 Handy, Luther. 638

Hanks, W. H. 607
 Harding, William. 542
 Harrington, J. D. 640
 Harrison, Benjamin. 107
 Harrison, William Henry. 51
 Hart, B. F. 818
 Harter, Benjamin. 798
 Harter, Harvey. 799
 Hartwell, D. R. 582
 Hartwell, Mrs. J. E. 459
 Hartwell, Thomas O. 588
 Harwood, Isaac. 560
 Hathaway, Dr. J. M. 817
 Hatinger, J. J. 690
 Hawley, Hon. W. 817
 Hayes, Bert. 738
 Hayes, N. B. 275
 Hayes, Rutherford B. 91
 Haynor, Isaac B. 697
 Hazelitt, J. M. 460
 Heath, V. S. 701
 Hendee, O. P. 530
 Hess, B. E., M. D. 286
 Heydlauff, W. F. 713
 Hodge, John N. 340
 Holcomb, A. J. 467
 Holcomb, Benoni. 783
 Holcomb, J. S. 682
 Holland, Charles H. 281
 Holland, George. 573
 Holland, Henry. 804
 Holmes, L. L. 493
 Hoople, Alvin. 504
 Hoople, E. 718
 Hoover, Oliver. 688
 Hopkins, N. P. 487
 Hopkins, Warren. 822
 Hoppough, Frank. 594
 Hoppough, George. 499
 Hosford, George. 471
 Hosford, S. O. 630
 Houseman, C. L. 277
 Howard, William H. 372
 Hoy, R. W. 800
 Hoyt, D. T. 491
 Hull, H. F. 503
 Hull, William E. 317
 Humphrey, R. J., M. D. 531
 Hunt, Abram. 623
 Hunter, G. H. 228
 Hutchins, Dewitt C. 249
 Hutchinson, Gen. F. S. 435
 Hyde, George S. 308

I

Inman, W. A. 391
 Isham, A. R. 522

J

Jackson, Andrew. 43
 Jackson, Thomas E. 209
 Jacobus, Joseph S. 378

Jefferson, Thomas. 27
 Jenison, C. O., M. D. 733
 Jepson, Charles. 309
 Jerome, David H. 165
 Jewell, Rev. David A. 305
 Johnson, Andrew. 83
 Johnson, Thomas. 208
 Jones, William R. 728
 Joslin, C. W. 651
 Jourdan, James. 246
 Just, J. E. 235

K

Keefer, William. 512
 Keller, John. 271
 Kelley, D., M. D. 840
 Kellogg, R. M. 727
 Kelsey, E. P. 751
 Kidd, Gen. J. H. 335
 Kilborn, David. 651
 Kimball, S. H. 390
 Kimberly, Clayton. 569
 King, George. 812
 Kirtland, John, W., M. D. 367
 Klotz, John W. 775
 Knapp, O. J. 532
 Knapp, Thomas D. 412
 Knapp, Z. B. 488
 Koutz, Noah D. 589

L

Lampkin, William. 437
 Lee, Chadwick A. 379
 Lee, Hiram N. 341
 Lepard, Daniel. 201
 Le Valley, Eri. 419
 Le Valley, Iri F. 651
 Lincoln, Abraham. 79
 Little, Andrew. 739
 Locke, W. H. 509
 Long, P. 601
 Loomis, Samuel. 257
 Lott, Joseph. 793
 Louks, Henry. 709
 Loveland, Levi W. 249
 Lovell, Hon. Louis S. 452
 Lovewell, Wallace. 735
 Lowrey, B. J. 482
 Luce, Cyrus Gray. 177
 Lung, C. W. 571
 Luz, Christian. 328
 Lyon, R. G. 710

M

Mackay, R. E. 479
 Macomber, Allen. 472
 Madison, James. 31

Marsh, Henry. 834
 Martin, A. M., M. D. 329
 Mason, D. B. 612
 Mason, Stephen T. 105
 Mather, Amos R. 714
 Mather, N. W. 242
 Mathews, William. 302
 Mathison, George. 512
 Mattison, D. J. 689
 Mattison, W. H. 236
 Mayes, Walter. 288
 Maynard, A. W. 258
 Maynard, John J. 450
 McClelland, Robert. 129
 McClelland, W. H. 280
 McCormick, Alva. 270
 McCrumb, M. L. 628
 McIntosh, H. J. 267
 McKendry, Robert. 441
 McKune, William W. 528
 McQuillin, John. 207
 Mead, Albert. 843
 Millard, Charles. 690
 Millard, Leander. 670
 Millard, Rev. D. E. 694
 Miller, Abraham. 271
 Miller, B. G. 292
 Miller, John F. 723
 Milligan, William. 725
 Milne, James. 815
 Minard, George H. 761
 Minard, S. T. 490
 Miner, Horace F. 331
 Miner, M. J. 659
 Mitchell, W. P. 763
 Monroe, James. 35
 Moon, Abe L. 770
 Moon, Frank L. 806
 Moon, W. H. 192
 Morehead, D. B. 468
 Morehouse, A. F. 557
 Morris, George. 792
 Morrison, John E. 552
 Morse, A. B. 205
 Morse, Grant M. 810
 Morse, J. D. 497
 Mosher, L. J. 527
 Mulholland, D. 746
 Murphy, Edward. 537
 Murphy, E. A. 830
 Murray, Edward. 809
 Musselman, John R. 484
 Myers, D. W. 370

N

Nichols, A. W., M. D. 779
 Nelson, Judge Francis. 406
 Newman, Almeron. 291
 Newman, James E. 737
 Newman, John G. 738
 Newton, George A. 732
 Noah, William. 365
 Noble, J. C. 577
 Nolan, Nicholas. 618
 Nolty, William. 326

INDEX.

North, E. W 587
 Northway, Charles..... 807
 Nummer, George C..... 278

O

Olmstead, M. V 581
 Olmsted, L. N 683
 Orth, Fred..... (79)
 Otis, Amon..... 622
 Otis, N. L..... 592

P

Palmer, George W..... 414
 Parker, Mrs. Elizabeth..... 614
 Parsons, Andrew..... 133
 Patrick, Frederick..... 202
 Patterson, William..... 578
 Peake, J. W..... 533
 Pennington, W. D..... 211
 Peoples, John 355
 Percival, W. J..... 261
 Petterson, C. C..... 500
 Pettit, George..... 239
 Phelps, G. F..... 533
 Phillips, G. A..... 757
 Phillips, Mrs. S..... 511
 Pickell, Edson..... 715
 Pierce, Franklin..... 71
 Place, William D..... 593
 Polk, James K..... 59
 Porter, Edwin..... 400
 Porter, N. A..... 262
 Potts, George A..... 256
 Powell, E. R..... 604
 Powell, Joseph P..... 395
 Pratt, Aaron B..... 320
 Pratt, Elijah..... 547
 Prestel, John W..... 786
 Preston, B. H..... 411
 Preston, C. A..... 226
 Price, W. H..... 715
 Probasco, Benjamin..... 330
 Purdy, John R..... 342

R

Ramsey, John..... 507
 Ransom, Epaphroditus..... 125
 Rathbun, Ransom..... 197
 Rector, Simeon..... 695
 Reed, George A..... 710

Regis, Thomas..... 396
 Remington, William M..... 299
 Renwick, John T..... 298
 Reynolds, D. A..... 692
 Rice, Corydon..... 272
 Rice, N. B..... 520
 Rich, Abijah..... 520
 Rich, Hon. Hampton 245
 Richards, E. A..... 237
 Ring, Armon J..... 375
 Roach, N..... 769
 Roasch, Joseph..... 550
 Robb, C. H..... 381
 Robbins, J. J..... 198
 Robertson, Duncan..... 480
 Robinson, Hon. J. W..... 829
 Roell, L. S..... 521
 Rosekrans, A..... 669
 Ross, Jay..... 518
 Ruel, J. H..... 831
 Rumsey, C. J..... 490

S

Sackett, Hiram..... 672
 Sage, James A..... 455
 Sage, William W..... 529
 Sagendorf, Jerome..... 534
 Sampson, B. B..... 510
 Samain William L..... 502
 Sanders, C. G..... 762
 Satterlee, O. S..... 456
 Sawdy, Calvin..... 608
 Scoville, L. A..... 217
 Schultz, B. F..... 833
 Searing, C. A..... 241
 Shaw, Asher C..... 797
 Shaw, Spencer L..... 711
 Shires, Alford..... 523
 Shotwell, Levi..... 392
 Showerman, L. E..... 219
 Showerman, O. V..... 741
 Slanker, Myron..... 279
 Slemmons, James..... 338
 Smith, A. G..... 833
 Smith, Chester, M. D..... 431
 Smith, L. A..... 785
 Smith, M. L..... 835
 Smith, N. E..... 790
 Smith, Thomas E..... 570
 Smith, Hon. V. H..... 225
 Smith, William P..... 337
 Sneathen, P. D..... 222
 Snell, George A..... 608
 Snell, Jacob..... 397
 Snyder, George W., M. D..... 385
 Somers, Charles P..... 828
 Sorenson, L. P..... 772
 Soule, H..... 540

Soule, L. B..... 767
 Sprague, Alexander..... 336
 Sprague, Austin..... 269
 Spencer, W. E..... 289
 Staley, W. A..... 296
 Stanbro, Ransom..... 483
 Stannard, Hon. A. S..... 675
 Stanton, G. W..... 676
 Steadman, Thomas A..... 696
 Stebbins, Orren..... 260
 Stebbins, S. M..... 312
 Steele, William..... 802
 Storm, John..... 282
 Story, W. S..... 689
 Stoudt, Daniel..... 673
 Stowell, Samuel..... 259
 Strachan, George I..... 653
 Strong, A. W..... 747
 Strong, E. F..... 321
 Summers, J. G..... 644

T

Taft, Frank..... 240
 Taylor, J. C..... 602
 Taylor, P. H..... 445
 Taylor, Thomas 744
 Taylor, Zachary..... 63
 Tebbel, W. R..... 503
 Thacher, I. E..... 612
 Thomas, Thomas..... 351
 Thompson, C. O..... 285
 Thompson, D. L..... 400
 Tibbits, J..... 415
 Tingley, Henry G..... 717
 Totten, Dr. James..... 217
 Tower, O. S..... 758
 Tower, Osmond..... 768
 Tower, R. J..... 230
 Town, M. E..... 420
 Town, Simon..... 462
 Townsend, Joseph..... 500
 Townsend, O. C..... 310
 Townsend, S. M..... 268
 Townsend, Steward..... 579
 Tredenick, James..... 449
 Tremayne, H..... 811
 Tucker, George W..... 355
 Turnbull, Adam S..... 578
 Tuttle, Almon..... 619
 Tyler, Isaac E..... 359
 Tyler, John..... 55

V

Van Benschoten, H. L..... 814
 Van Buren, Martin..... 47

Vance, Emerson..... 426
 Van Liew, V. C., M. D..... 658
 Van Vleck, Peter..... 220

W

Wachs, P. A..... 210
 Wallington, Richard..... 227
 Washington, George..... 19
 Waterbury, Orry..... 748
 Waters, Levi..... 238
 Watt, S. A..... 448
 Webber, George W..... 191
 Weekes, Augustus R..... 736
 Welch, S. K..... 218
 Welch, Thomas..... 474
 Wemp, W. M., M. D..... 599
 White, Edwin..... 539
 White, George W..... 707
 White, Mrs. A. E..... 836
 White, William..... 349
 Whitmore, Peter..... 473
 Whittlesey, W. S..... 683
 Whorley, Jacob..... 705
 Wickes, A. C..... 311
 Wickes, George P..... 342
 Wickes, James L..... 240
 Wilbur, S. J..... 795
 Wilcox, A. R..... 327
 Willett, Hon. A. M..... 771
 Willett, G. A..... 819
 Williams, Hon. Albert..... 215
 Williams, Hon. E. R..... 265
 Williams, J. O..... 837
 Williams, W. W..... 784
 Wilson, A. G..... 674
 Wilson, J. S..... 562
 Wilson, Rev. William J..... 564
 Winans, Edwin E..... 181
 Wisner, Moses..... 141
 Woodbridge, William..... 109
 Woodman, B. F..... 706
 Woodman, D. W..... 352
 Worcester, Ira N..... 808
 Wright, Cass T..... 654
 Wright, Charles C..... 276
 Wright, Ebenezer..... 297
 Wright, G. J..... 548
 Wurster, George..... 770

Y

Yeomans, Hon. S. A..... 652
 Youngman, George C..... 805
 Youngman, S. J..... 678

INDEX.

PORTRAITS

Adams, John..... 22	Fillmore, Millard 66	Johnson, Andrew..... 82	Pratt, Elijah 546
Adams, John Q..... 38	Foster, John J..... 344	Jewell, Rev. D. A..... 304	Ramsey, John..... 506
Alger, Russell A..... 172	Fox, Mathew..... 324	Just, Josiah E..... 234	Ransom, Epaphrodita..... 124
Arthur, Chester A..... 98	Gamber, W. P..... 476	Kidd, James H..... 334	Rich, Hampton..... 244
Bagley, John J..... 156	Garfield, J. A..... 94	Lincoln, Abraham..... 78	Rosekrans, A..... 666
Baldwin, Henry P..... 152	Grant, U. S..... 86	Luce, Cyrus Gray..... 176	Rosekrans, Mrs. A..... 667
Barry, John S..... 112	Greenly, William L..... 120	Madison, James..... 30	Sage, James A..... 454
Begole, Josiah W..... 168	Groff, Sydney..... 626	Mason, Stephen..... 104	Showerman, O. V..... 740
Bell, A. F..... 254	Hall, Joshua S..... 422	McClelland, Robert..... 128	Smith, Vernon H..... 224
Bellamy, E. S..... 696	Hall, Mrs. J. S..... 423	Minard, George H..... 760	Snyder, George W..... 384
Benedict, J. M..... 294	Hanks, William H..... 606	Monroe, James..... 34	Taylor, P. H..... 444
Berry, E. R..... 646	Hayes, R. B..... 90	Morehouse, A. F..... 556	Taylor, Zachary 62
Bingham, Kinsley S..... 136	Harrison, Benjamin..... 106	Morse, Allen B..... 204	Thompson, C. O... 284
Blair, Austin..... 144	Harrison, W. H..... 50	Morse, J. D..... 496	Tucker, George W..... 354
Boite, Rev. Charles G..... 314	Holcomb, A. J..... 464	Mosher, L. J..... 526	Tyler, John..... 54
Brown Enoch..... 566	Holcomb, Mrs. A. J..... 465	Nichols, A. W..... 778	Van Buren, Martin..... 46
Buchanan, James..... 74	Hopkins, N. P..... 486	Noah, William..... 364	Washington, George..... 18
Cleveland, S. Grover..... 102	Hutchinson, Gen. F. S... 434	Noble, J. C..... 576	Webber, George W..... 190
Crapo, Henry H..... 148	Jackson, Andrew..... 42	Parsons, Andrew..... 132	Williams, Albert..... 214
Crane, A. A..... 404	Jefferson, Thomas..... 26	Pierce, Franklin..... 70	Williams, E. R..... 264
Croswell, Charles M..... 160	Jerome, David H..... 164	Polk, J. K..... 58	Winans, Edwin B..... 180
Felch, Alpheus..... 116		Powell, Joseph P..... 394	Wisner, Moses..... 140
			Woodbridge, William..... 108

Views.

Barnard, Edward..... 515	Durkee, C. M..... 703	Handy, Luther..... 635	Parker, Elizabeth..... 615
Benedict, L. N..... 655	English, J. C..... 685	Hoover, Oliver..... 685	Ring, A. J..... 373
Carbough, William..... 585	Ferguson, Lewis H..... 635	Howard, W. H..... 373	Waterbury, Orry..... 749
Coleman, Eli A..... 635	Gardner, Joseph..... 749	Miller, John F..... 721	Whorley, Jacob..... 703
Cooley, J. E..... 685	Gardner, Thomas..... 721	Murphy, E..... 535	Wright, Cass T..... 655
Currie, Washington..... 515	Hall, L. E..... 615	North, E. W..... 585	



